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YOUR CITY AND YOU



YOUR CITY and YOU

THE STORY OF KANSAS CITY

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Illustrated by students of Kansas City High Schools

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI



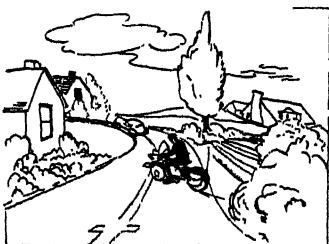
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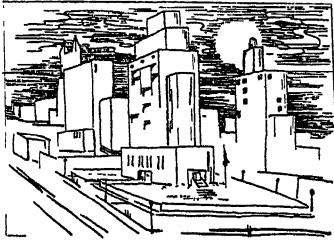
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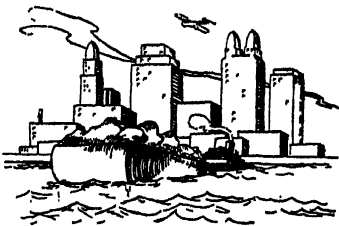
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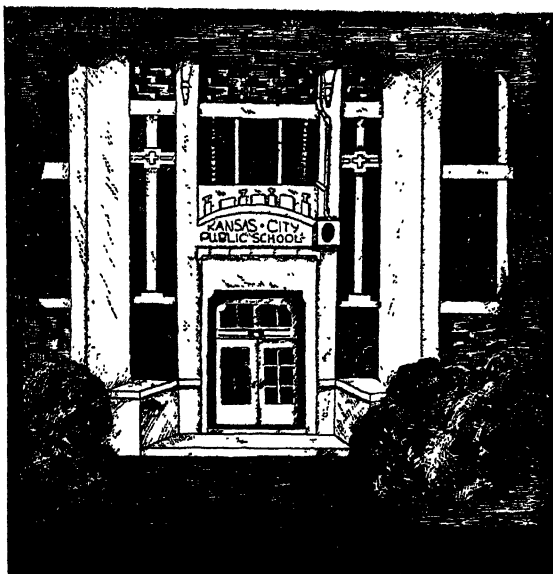
FOREWORD

To write the history of a city is to record the past and chronicle the present. The authors of *The Story of Kansas City* in its four volumes have endeavored to give the historical approach to the presentation of the picture of Kansas City today. In the preparation of materials they have used such primary sources as original documents, newspaper files, and personal interviews, while their secondary sources were histories, biographies, and textbooks in current use. The material presented was selected on the basis of whether it was true, teachable, suitable to the grade level for which it was written, and of human interest. All four volumes were tailored to the curriculum plan for the social studies.

The vocabulary of the four volumes of *The Story of Kansas City* was checked with the Buckingham-Dolch Word List in order that it would not exceed the grade level in which it is to be used.

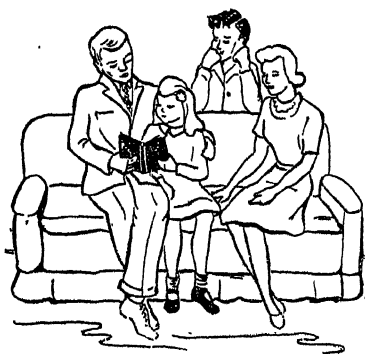
In the preparation of the last two volumes, authorities in various fields of civic life were consulted in regard to the material presented. The authors are most grateful to these consultants for both their time and their interest, and feel that their contributions have been very valuable to the books. They wish also to express their appreciation to the Director of the Curriculum Department, who served as their counselor. The Administrative Staff, the Library Staff, the Art Department, and the art teachers and their students in the high schools have been most cooperative and their help is gratefully acknowledged.

The story of Kansas City will change with the years, and the present four volumes will one day be out-dated. They are the story of the city as it appeared in the middle 1940's—historically, culturally, economically, and politically—but they cannot be the story of the future Kansas City. That will be written by the boys and girls who read these books.



Part 1 **How You Are a Part of Your Community**

1. The Place You Call Home
2. Investing in Learning
3. Temples of Worship
4. Community Patterns



1. The Place You Call Home

BIRTHDAY FOR A HOUSE

Word had gone out through Clay and Jackson Counties that Miss Emma was "fixing to receive." Miss Emma was eighty-four years old and had white silky hair, wrinkled cheeks, and a smile that changed her face from plain to pretty. She had eyes that sparkled even at the thought of a party.

Miss Emma lived at Oakridge farm across the river from Kansas City, and she had planned a most unusual kind of birthday party. It was not to celebrate her own eighty-four years. It was not to honor her niece. Nor was it for her great nephew, although his birthday came in October. This party for five hundred guests was to be given for Miss Emma's home. That home had stood for one hundred years on a farm in Clay County and still sheltered the descendants of the family who had built it. This was reason enough to have a party in its honor.

When a home has lived to be a hundred years old, people from far and near are glad to join in celebrating its birthday. So on a beautiful autumn Sunday in 1944 all the friends of Miss Emma Compton and her family came to her party. As they turned into the lane, they saw the century-old farm house before them. In 1844 a young Kentuckian carried his bride across the threshold of a four-room log cabin. As his family grew, he added rooms until Miss Emma was now living in a rambling ten-room house.

Miss Emma told friends she remembered much of her life on the farm. She had eight sisters and a brother, and there had always been lots of company in her home. Miss Emma recalled the happy times when the house was full of young people. All the girls slept in a room above her mother's room, while the boys took the one above the parlor. Sometimes as many as forty guests came for Christmas and stayed until New Year's Day. When all the beds in the house were filled, there were sixteen feather beds to be spread on the living room floor to take care of the overflow. When a bedroom off the parlor was built onto the house, Miss

Emma said she thought she lived in a mansion, even though it was lighted by kerosene lamps and heated by stoves and open fireplaces.

Miss Emma's memories included those of house servants cooking in the far kitchen over an open fireplace. They included, too, the time when her father gave up his ox-team for a wagon and a team of horses, when she rode horseback to see a neighbor's sewing machine, and the pride her family took in their grandfather's dental tools which in 1834 he had brought west by steamboat.

Living again in the past made the birthday party for her home a great day for Miss Emma. A visit to this home was a memorable one for the guests, for it gave them a glimpse of life as it was lived years ago on a farm near Kansas City. Miss Emma's home was typical of a number of pioneer homes in Kansas City and Jackson County.

YOUR PIONEER HERITAGE

Life in these early homes meant work as well as hospitality. People in early Kansas City lived far from the markets of the

Miss Emma's home





Home of Alexander Majors

East and had to depend upon their own resourcefulness for even the necessities of life. They counted on the help of their neighbors to fell logs, "raise" their cabins, and to care for their sick. Mothers needed their daughters to help with the cooking, weaving, sewing, and other household tasks. Fathers depended upon their sons for work in the fields and at the carpenter's bench.

Pioneer families here were drawn closely together by their needs for everyday living. Many times they had to use make-shifts for the necessities which they could not buy. A woman who came to Westport in the 1850's told of using an ear of corn for a rolling pin, of preparing lye to be used in making soap, and of stuffing mattresses with hay.

Another pioneer told how she made starch from potato water and blueing from the dye in an old piece of calico. Bread bowls were hollowed out of blocks of solid wood. Gourds were raised in which to store soap, sugar, lard, and seeds. There was no salt to be bought, so once a year settlers went to the salt springs at Boones's Lick. They stayed there a week or ten days boiling down the water into salt. There was no sugar except

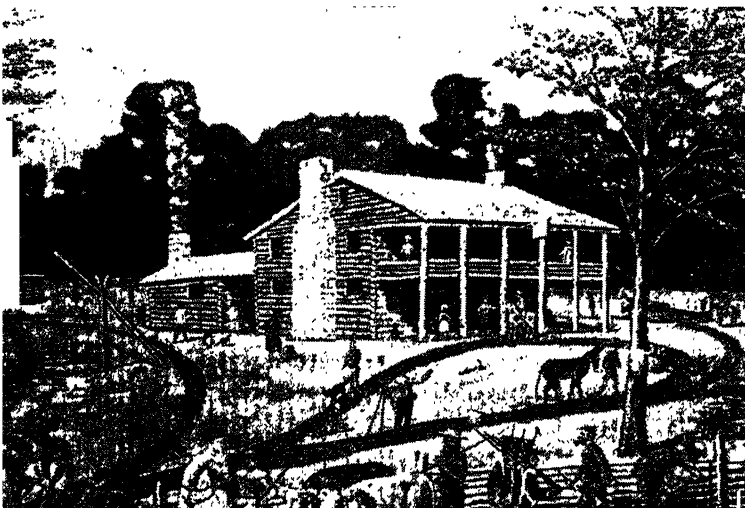
the maple syrup which was gathered in the spring from nearby trees. Honey was taken in autumn from bee trees. None of these jobs could be done alone, so the pioneer needed the help of his family and his friends. By working together, pioneers developed ties which bound them closely to one another in spirit.

The heritage which you have received from the pioneers is the example which they set in the closeness of family and neighborhood life. They brought with them the lasting qualities essential to home building. They brought strength of purpose, a longing to put down roots, and a genuine love of home. Today we realize that these same qualities which were so important in the homes of pioneers are equally worthwhile in our own homes.

YOUR OWN HOME LIFE

Any home, whether it is large or small, provides the four walls which give shelter and safety to human beings. Your home is important to you because its walls shelter you. You know you can be safe and comfortable there. It is your starting point for each day's activities, but you always return to its welcoming safety at night. The feeling of safety which you

Yoacham's Tavern



have does not come, however, just from realizing you are securely sheltered. It comes much more from knowing you are protected by an atmosphere of affection within your home. For the heart of the home is the spirit within it.

Today social life and customs are different from what they were before the time of the motor car and the airplane, but your desire to share your homes with friends remains the same as that of the first settlers in Kansas City. You seldom have guests come to visit you for weeks or months at a time, but you do have them for a meal or overnight.

Have you ever looked at your home through the eyes of someone whom you have brought into it? Can anyone who enters your home feel that he has come into a place that you hold dear, which shelters a family you love?

Can any visitor in your home tell whether or not you have "family feeling?" This feeling is the foundation upon which the spirit of any home is built. If you have "family feeling," you show by your actions that you take pride in all members of your family and in what they accomplish. This is true whether it is your baby sister learning to talk, your older brother getting his first job, your father being promoted, or your mother making a dress. While you may have arguments or friendly differences among yourselves, yet you feel injured and somewhat angry at criticism of your family by any outsider. You are willing to consider the feelings and wishes of others within your home circle. You share the joys as well as the troubles of your parents, brothers, and sisters, and want to help each other whenever the need arises. ¶

When you have a strong family feeling, all of you are willing to plan the life of your home together. In many homes of earlier times, plans were made by the father of the family and no one else's wishes were consulted. Today, at your dinner table, plans may be talked over which include everything from whether Junior should take a magazine route to the possibilities for a

summer vacation. And each member of your family at least has a chance to express his own opinion before a decision is reached.

Any guest within your home can soon tell how important you consider good manners by how naturally you use them. If you put on airs, your younger brothers and sisters will be the first to recognize the difference between your "company manners" and your everyday actions. Courtesy at home makes the wheels of family life move so much more smoothly that you will want to practice it at all times. A modern writer, Mary Ellen Chase, says, "If I were growing up again, I would cultivate good manners. For good manners are more than an expression of good will. To make them a habit means the discovery within one's self of kindness and of concern for others, and of the desire to make one's home and community a more pleasant, happier place."

The feeling most necessary to the spirit of a home is the affection which exists there. Your heart and mind are supported by this spirit just as much as your body is strengthened by food. When you know that you can count on the love of your family at all times, you have the sense of security which helps you to face life.

Because your home is so much a part of you, you want to be able to take pride in it. It is not possible for all of you to live in the same kind of dwelling, nor would you want to do so. You cannot always choose in what neighborhood your home will be, or if it will be brick or stone, or basement or attic room, or colonial or modern, or cottage or apartment. Those conditions are determined in large measure by the income which your parents are able to earn, and by its nearness to their work, to school, or to church, rather than by what you wish you could have or where you would like to live.

However, there are certain ways in which you can help to keep up the appearance of your home. Your ability and willing-

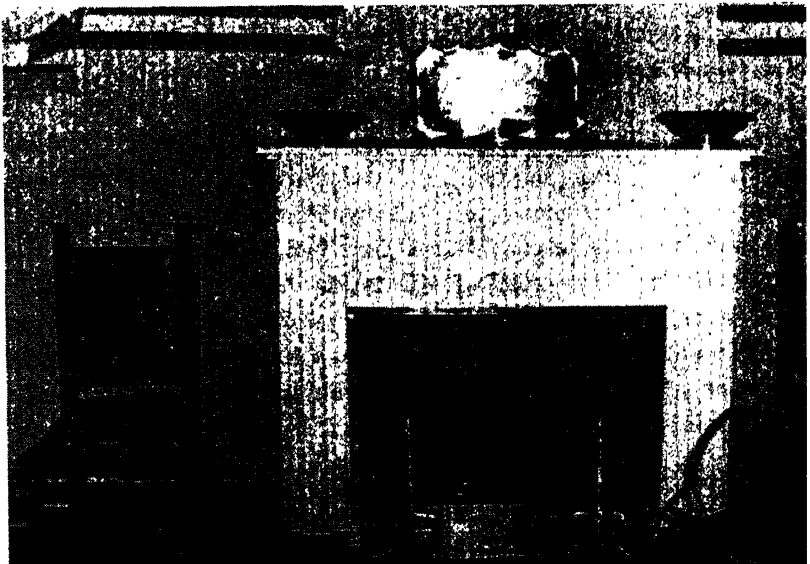
ness to push a lawn-mower, use a rake, dig dandelions, or tend a garden may add greatly to its attractiveness.

A neat lawn or a beautiful flower bed has transformed many an undesirable dwelling into a home which was a joy to its owner and the pride of the neighborhood. A Kansas City newspaper once printed the story of a railroad switchman who had lovely morning glories climbing over his shack in the yards. Those passing by not only enjoyed them, but could also feel the switchman's pride in making the most of what he had by changing an unpainted shack into a homelike dwelling.

If your family lives in an apartment, you may not need to be concerned about the appearance of a yard or the repairs of a house. But, wherever your home may be, you will surely want it to be clean inside, to be kept in order, and to be pleasingly arranged and decorated. You may be thinking that while you are in school the job of homemaking is not yours. However, because you are a member of a family, you do have a share in making your home the kind of a place you want it to be.

By studying art and design in school, you may learn how

Room furnishings made by industrial arts students





A graduation dress made in a homemaking class

to choose correct color combinations and how to obtain balance in room arrangement. By taking courses in homemaking, you may learn how to serve nourishing and tasty meals, to set an artistic table, and to select household furnishings in good taste. Through courses in cabinet making, you may be able to make lamps, chairs, and tables, or to refinish old pieces of furniture. Or you may have learned how to repair electric irons, toasters, doorbells, and leaky faucets. What you have learned at school can be put into practice at home, even on a limited budget.

Everyone has something he would like to change about his home, and until the time comes when you can live in the house of your dreams, it may mean that you will have to be satisfied with making the most of what you have. By applying what you have learned from school, from reading, from visiting the homes of friends, or seeing displays in department stores, you may be able to "make whatever you have as good to live with as possible."



A class in industrial arts

You alone cannot determine altogether either the spirit or the appearance of your home, but as a member of a family group, you have an important part to play. By your willingness to cooperate, your desire to help, and your active interest in your home life, you can aid in building the kind of home you wish.

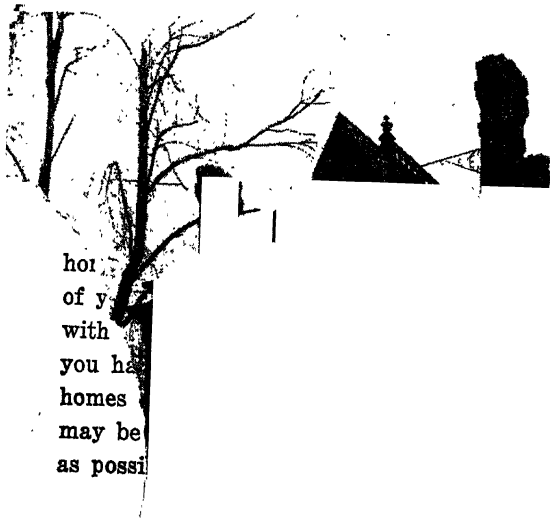
Perhaps one of the biggest problems in life which you face at the moment is where you find yourself, or what home conditions surround you. Where you live is beyond your control. It is determined by many conditions, one of which is the size of your family. You may be an only child or a member of a large group. If you have several brothers and sisters or relatives living with you, you may not be able to have a room of your own. It may even be necessary for you to sleep in the living or dining room. You may have a home large enough to entertain your friends, or it may be so crowded that you must go outside it for your recreation. But the number of people living in your home makes a decided difference to you.

Perhaps you will be interested to compare the size of your own household with the average in Kansas City. According to the 1940 census, the average size of a household in your city is



A home on Quality Hill

A Kansas City home at Tenth and Harrison Streets



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was three and one fourth persons, for there were 399,178 people living within 122,103 households. Your own may include more or less than this figure. Although you may sometimes think your home is entirely too small for your needs, yet it is a fact that only 5.8% or 6,957 of the dwelling units in Kansas City are considered overcrowded. This means that they average one and a half persons to each room.

The district in the city where there is the most overcrowding is that part which was once known as Quality Hill. This is located on the West Side of the city overlooking Kersey Coates Drive and used to be the section where wealthy people built their homes. There is also overcrowding on the North Side and in the Mexican and Negro districts.

****The Ten Blocks Highest in Population***

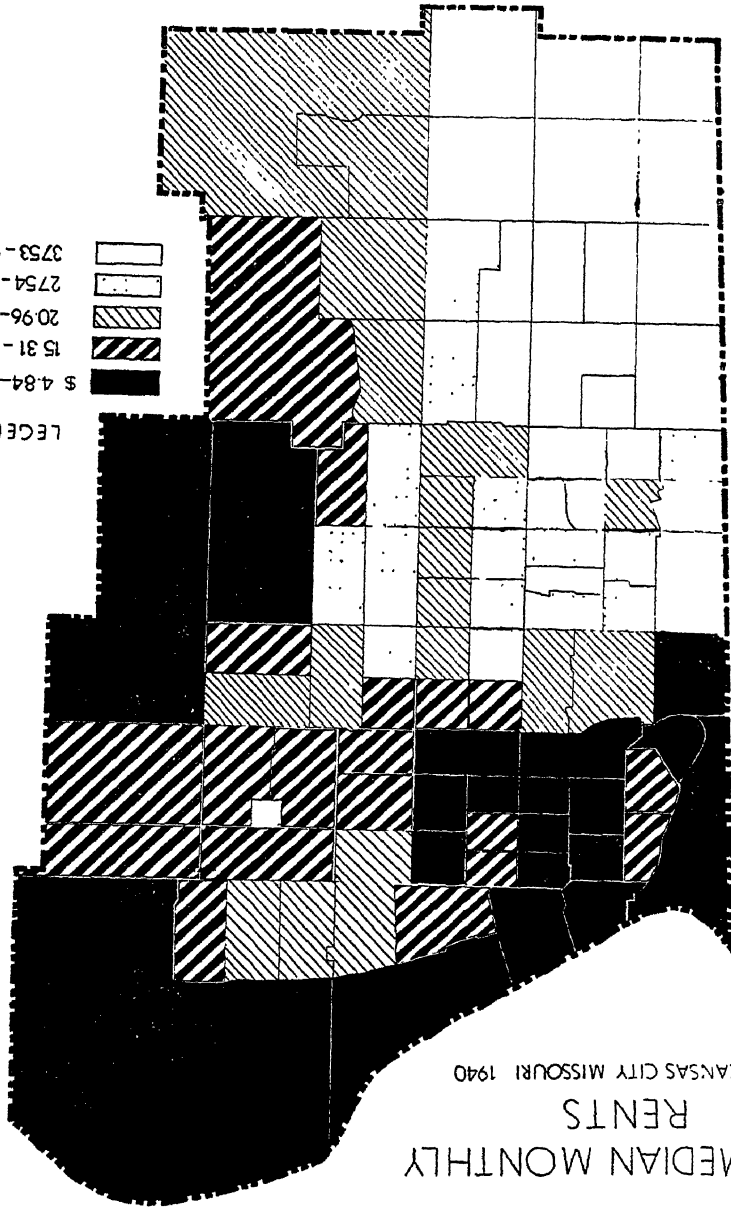
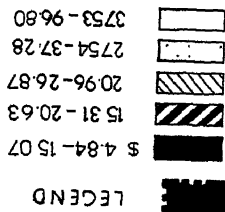
Rank in Density	Acres	Number of Persons	Persons Per Acre	Location
1	1.48	742	501	11th-12th; Penn-Washington
2	2.70	897	369	Ward Pkwy-48th; Wornall- Baltimore
3	2.41	712	295	9th-10th; Penn-Washington
4	1.72	330	191	8th-9th; Penn-Jefferson
5	3.40	843	248	26th-27th; Harrison-Troost
6	2.18	491	225	9th-10th; Holmes-Charlotte
7	3.15	852	204	48th-Ward Pkwy; Madison- Jefferson
8	1.98	459	231	16th-17th; Euclid-Garfield
9	2.79	576	206	11th-12th; Troost-Forest
10	2.29	511	223	11th-12th; Lydia-Paseo

****The City Plan Commission, *Patterns and People*, 1944, p. 46***

Another condition influencing your home life is the amount of your family income. This, to a large degree, determines the location of your home, its furnishings, and whether or not it

MEDIAN MONTHLY RENTS

KANSAS CITY MISSOURI 1940



fits your needs. If you know the amount of your family budget which goes for rent, payments, or upkeep on your home, it helps you to understand why you live where you do.

It may surprise you to know that the average monthly rental in Kansas City is \$27.44, and that 21,395 dwelling units rent for less than \$15. Rentals on the north side of the city average \$7.30 per month, and those on the west side \$13.30. The average rental in Kansas City is considerably lower than the national figure of \$33.19 for all cities of fifty thousand or more population.

In 1944, about 69% of the property in Kansas City was rental property, while there were 37,761 home owners. Residential districts away from the downtown area are filled with single family homes occupied by their owners. The average value of these homes was \$3,719 in 1945.

When you realize that both the size of your family and the size of their income determines the size and type of your home, you can appreciate it all the more.

PROTECTING HOME TIES

There are certain groups or agencies whose chief purpose it is to protect your home. Some of these agencies are under the direction of the city government. They include the Health, Fire, Water, Police, Welfare, and Public Works Departments. (See Chapters 5 through 9.) Others are under the state government, for it is interested in having a public record of all important contracts to be kept on file for your protection.

Some of these state records are found at the Jackson County Court House in Kansas City, where the office of Recorder of Deeds is located. In this case the word "deeds" refers to records of sales of property. These sales records are on written forms called "deeds" and are given to your parents whenever they purchase a piece of property. When they hold a deed to their

home, it declares them the rightful owners and protects them against those who might try to cheat or defraud them.

In the office of the Recorder of Deeds are filed all land records, including those of mortgages on property, and on movable goods such as furniture and motor cars. Loans on these are secured by chattel mortgages. Marriage licenses are also issued in this office and permanent records of all marriages are copied in the county record books. To obtain a marriage license, a girl must be eighteen years of age and a boy twenty-one. The fee is three dollars, and there is a three-day wait between the time when a marriage license is obtained and the wedding ceremony.

Additional help to you and your family is given by other state agencies under the direction of the State Security Commission. Following the lead of Congress, when it passed the Social Security Act of 1935, the Missouri general assembly voted to match federal funds with an equal amount of state aid. With these funds the State Social Security Commission is able to provide Old-age Assistance, General Relief, Aid to Dependent Children, and Child Welfare. Here are the ways in which this agency through its four divisions can help your family and your home:

Old Age Assistance: If any person 65 or more years old is unable to earn a living and does not have enough income to live under healthy and decent conditions, he may apply for old-age assistance. To be eligible to receive assistance he must have lived in the state a full year preceding the date of his application. He must also have lived in Missouri five out of the nine years before the date he applies for aid. The largest amount he can receive under the law is thirty dollars a month. A husband and wife living together may receive forty-five dollars. In 1941, the Missouri General Assembly appropriated \$20,000,000 for old-age assistance payments. This amount was doubled when it was matched by the federal government funds.

General Relief: People living within the state who cannot be employed because of physical or mental handicaps are given help through the general fund to supply them with food, clothing, fuel, and other necessities. These funds are contributed by the state only, and during 1941-42 thirty thousand persons re-

ceived aid. Six million dollars were spent for this purpose and Jackson County received its share of the amount.

Aid to Dependent Children: When children's homes are broken, and they are deprived of the care of their parents, by death, desertion or by physical or mental disability, the state gives aid to their mothers or other relatives who may be keeping them. A mother may receive eighteen dollars a month for the first child and twelve dollars a month for all other children, but is never allowed over sixty dollars no matter how many children there are in the family.

Child Welfare: Children in Kansas City who are neglected or dependent may also receive help from the Child Welfare Services Department. It receives money from the United States Children's Bureau under the Federal Social Security Act, from the state, and from the city. Child Welfare workers advise parents in ways to improve or correct home conditions so that these homes will not become a source of juvenile delinquency.

Besides giving money to the state to be spent for family relief, the federal government has several agencies which offer aid to home owners. Through the Home Owners Loan Corporation (HOLC) and the Federal Housing Authority (FHA), the owners of homes may borrow money in order to keep up payments on mortgages. It is also possible to arrange loans for improvement of property. Cities can secure funds through the Federal Housing Authority to clear out undesirable slum districts and to replace them with modern low-rent housing projects. Two such projects to be built at a cost of over four million dollars were started in 1945 by the Kansas City Housing Authority. (See Chapter 9.)

By taking an active interest in bettering living conditions and improving personal relationships, the city, state, and federal governments prove that they consider the home the basic foundation of American life.

Not only are there government agencies interested in protecting your home, but also there are relief agencies in Kansas City giving over seventy services to the public including those concerned with health, recreation, child welfare, and family relationships. While each agency has its own staff and office,

all are listed with the Council of Social Agencies located at 1020 McGee Street. The assistance of these organizations may be given through medical care, clubs for boys and girls, settlement houses, homes for the aged, orphanages, or through care and advice to parents and children, as well as in some other ways. Through these channels, the various welfare agencies in a single year touch the lives of at least fifty per cent of the people living within Kansas City. All are trying to help maintain the highest standard of living possible in every Kansas City home which they contact. (See Chapter 8.)

Community Services of Social Agencies

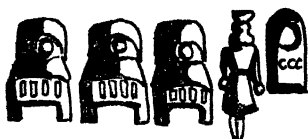
1945



41,906 teen-age boys and girls in character building and recreation activity



2,207 children in institutions, homes, and nurseries, and 8,325 families helped



27,274 sick cared for by nurses, hospitals, and clinics



2,548 aged and handicapped in old people's homes and sheltered employment



7,943 returned veterans and service men helped in getting back into civilian life and work

WHEN HOMES BREAK UP

Sometimes in the life of a family there arise certain emergencies which cannot be planned for or anticipated. During a year sickness or death may enter a home. There are few homes which at one time or another do not need to meet the strain of illness, with its resulting demands on the family pocketbook. Occasionally these demands are so great that it might be necessary for a troubled mother to place her children temporarily in a foster boarding home or institution selected by the Juvenile Court. She pays what she can toward the expenses of her children, or if she is unable to pay anything, they will be met from public funds. When the mother of a family dies, sometimes the father has to put his children into such a home in order that they may have better care than he can give them.

In Kansas City there are a number of foster boarding homes where people interested in children are paid the amount of their board by the city. During 1943, there were 178 children living in foster homes, 122 in private institutions, and 154 in county institutions.

Sometimes homes are broken because of death. During one year in Kansas City approximately eleven out of every thousand people died. During an epidemic the rate might be higher. The loss of a father, mother, or other wage earner often makes a great difference in the life of a family, requiring many changes and adjustments to be made.

If your family income is ever lowered because your father or mother loses a job, takes another at lower pay, or is unable to work, you may find yourself living in a different environment. This may mean changing the amount and kinds of food you eat, the place you sleep, the clothes you wear, and the way you get your amusement.

Living in overcrowded conditions places a great strain on both adults and children within a family. Fathers and mothers sometimes become irritable living in close quarters. Children

often feel they are in the way or unwanted in their homes because there is little room for them or their belongings. From a lack of privacy comes the urge to escape from home and to seek pleasure outside it.

In a neighborhood where overcrowding is common and where families have low incomes, the houses, apartments, and flats are generally occupied by tenants rather than by owners. Sometimes in these areas there are vacant dwellings which show signs of juvenile delinquency. In Kansas City there are three particular areas where overcrowded conditions exist. One of these is on the West Side, from Baltimore Avenue to Kersey Coates Drive between Twelfth and Twenty-fifth Streets, where rents are the lowest in the city and many houses are converted into flats. Another is on the North Side, north of Independence Avenue; and the third is on the east side of the downtown business district between Twelfth and Eighteenth Streets. Of the 122,103 dwelling units in the city as a whole, there are 11,531 which need major repairs and 29,928 which have no private baths. There are many units within these three districts.

Much of the juvenile delinquency which occurs in Kansas City takes place in overcrowded areas. Police and Juvenile Court records prove that there is a definite relation between the living conditions of children and their social behavior. These records also show that the highest number of juvenile offenses are committed by children living within the overcrowded districts of the city, and prove that the two areas where unsocial juvenile behavior is most common are between Eighth and Sixteenth Streets from Jefferson to Troost, and Sixteenth to Twentieth between Troost and Woodland. By tracing where the offenders lived, it was found that they generally came from the three most crowded districts.

Homes are sometimes broken because of divorce. The laws of Missouri grant a divorce for desertion, conviction of felony, adultery, drunkenness, bigamy, and indignities. A person seek-

ing a divorce must have lived in Missouri one year before the date of filing for the suit. In Jackson County all suits for divorce are filed in the circuit court at Kansas City or Independence.

When parents are having domestic troubles and it is impossible for them to live together, their children often suffer. They are forced to divide their time between their father and mother and often miss the companionship and care of the one from whom they are separated. They cannot feel secure in their home life if these conditions exist. Consequently children from broken homes frequently get into trouble and have to appear before the courts. After an all-night session of the juvenile court, the judge gave the following reasons to the press as the causes of delinquency among young people:

1. Marriages dissolved in divorce courts
2. Lack of affection and guidance caused by both parents working
3. Discord between parents who use their children as a battle ground
4. Shifting and crowded housing conditions which cause a lack of privacy

In 1945, following the war, there was an alarming rise in the national divorce rate. There were nearly half as many divorces as marriages during the first ten months of the year in thirty of the nation's largest cities. Of these cities, Chicago was the highest with 16,000 divorces, Detroit had more than 13,000 and Houston had nearly 8,000. In greater Kansas City, during this same period, there were nearly 8,601 marriage licenses issued in Jackson and Wyandotte Counties, and about 5,700 divorces granted.

BUILDERS OF THE COMMUNITY

The home into which you were born is really a community in miniature, for it is the place where you learn how to live in a group. Your family is the first group with which you become

GROWING INTO YOUR COMMUNITY



acquainted. By watching its older members you learn how to talk, to walk, to form your tastes and opinions, and to choose your pleasures. Your home is your earliest school. In it you hold your first job and develop work habits. From the family it shelters you learn how to play. From the practices of daily living you form your attitudes toward self-control, cooperation, responsibility, and respect for law. Your home gives you your first experience in community living, and furnishes you the foundation upon which you build your life as a citizen.

Whenever you enter the varied activities of a neighborhood or community, you take with you the habits of action and thought you have learned at home. If you are considerate of the members of your family, you will also be considerate of the storekeeper who serves you. If you are courteous at home, you will generally be courteous on busses, in movies, or at parties. If you play fair with your brothers and sisters, you will play fair on a school team. If you respect the property rights of the members of your family, you will also have the same attitude toward the protection of school and neighborhood property. Your life in the community is the mirrored reflection of your life at home.

You may sometimes find it difficult to fit yourself into your family schedule. You may not want to get up when the rest of the household does. You may not always enjoy the same food as the others do. You may consider your young brother's favorite radio program too boring to deserve your attention. When your older sister fancies herself in love, it may disgust you. But whatever your desires, they must sometimes be forgotten in the interests of your family group.

In a modern home, its members often go outside for many of their activities, and sometimes do not meet as a family except at mealtimes. But if it is to be a happy home, the family must have some interests which they can all enjoy together. Perhaps that interest may be playing a favorite game, going on picnics, having an evening of music, sharing the Sunday comics, or making

a garden. Whatever it may be, this interest serves to unify a family and make a home the cornerstone of a community. For if there are not enough interests in common, the indifference of the members of the family will drive them outside for their pleasure.

Home to you may mean the hum of conversation around a family dinner table. It may mean folks to laugh and talk with, or a family to share your joys and understand your troubles. It may mean decorating a Christmas tree or blowing out the candles on a birthday cake. Home may mean taffy pulls in a kitchen, gay romps with the dog, or the smell of hot soup on a cold winter night. It may mean memories of a mother caring for you when you were ill, or the patience of a kind father. It is all the endless pictures that come to your mind when you think of the place you call home.



2. Investing in Learning

YOUR CAPITAL: YOU AS A PERSON

"How do you know when you're putting your money in a sure thing, Dad?" a high school freshman asked his father one evening.

"Don't tell me I'm being questioned by one of the future capitalists of the country," his father teased. "What is all this—are you thinking of making an investment?"

"No, not exactly," the boy replied. "I'll hold on to my hard-earned cash a little longer. It's just that tonight's paper says there was a sudden drop in the stock market today. It all makes me wonder. Where would you put your money to keep it safe?"

"Well," his father answered, "I've put some of mine in government bonds, some in life insurance, and some in preferred stock." He smiled as he added, "But I've always considered you my best investment."

Here the boy looked startled.

"In what way, Dad? I know I've cost you a lot in food and clothes, but since you brought it up, I'm glad you don't consider me altogether a liability," the boy countered jokingly.

"No, I wouldn't say that—I still list you with my assets, even though I have spent a good deal of money on you. That's not what I meant, however. What I'm thinking about is my investment in your education. I consider that the safest investment which I, and you, too, can make," his father replied.

"Go on, Dad. I'm not quite sure I get it."

"I guess you could put it this way: when you invest in an education, you can't lose. You are investing in something no one in the world can take from you. And you have as your capital your health, your attitude toward learning, your training in skills, your willingness to work, your personality—in short, whatever you are as a person. These you take with you wherever you go."

As a person, you, too, have your own capital stock. You brought it with you when you entered kindergarten in a public school in Kansas City. You brought your own assets into the new world which you entered. You left the boundaries of your home world and pushed them wider to include new horizons. You brought with you all the habits you had formed at home, the manners and customs you had learned, as well as your likes and dislikes. You soon learned, however, that you were only one of a large group which must live and work together. Your wishes, important as they may have seemed to you, were not always considered. You had to learn how to fit into your group. Perhaps this was your first real lesson.

Entering school meant, too, the broadening of your list of acquaintances. You came to know the safety patrols, the teachers and the principal, the school nurse, the cafeteria helpers, the custodians, the storekeepers in the neighborhood, and the traffic policeman. You learned how to do many things and you had fun doing them.

When you were very young, you ate, slept, played, explored your own world, made friends in the neighborhood, learned to obey adults, and to get along with your brothers and sisters. Later, as you went through elementary school your life was broadened to include learning how to read, to write and figure, to understand history and to learn of the peoples of the world, to enjoy music and art, to cook, sew, or build, to get along with others in classrooms and on playgrounds, to accept responsibility, and to choose your own interests. And all the time you were learning skills you were also forming habits of work and attitudes toward the rights of others, as well as standards of honesty, fair play, loyalty, and cooperation. In addition, you gained the experience of carrying your own load of responsibility, of making choices, and of taking pride in achievements and facing your failures.

To increase your capital, you need only to develop yourself

as the person you want to be. Your school serves as a laboratory for your experiment in living, for today the aim of Kansas City schools is the highest and greatest possible development of each individual child.

GILT-EDGED SECURITIES: YOUR CITY'S SCHOOLS

Before the Public Schools (1832-67)

The earliest schools in Kansas City were not public schools, and were not so much concerned with developing each child as a person as they were with giving him religious training. For the first schools within the boundaries of what is Kansas City today were started by religious groups. As early as 1832, the Mormons, who had pushed westward as far as Independence, opened a school near a spring in Troost Park. The school term was only three months long, for the sons and daughters of pioneers were needed to help on the farm and assist with the many chores of home. This school lasted only a few years, for the Mormons were driven from Missouri in 1834. In 1836, Father LeRoux, a Catholic priest, held classes in his parish house for the children of French traders and trappers who had settled along the river front.

Later there were private seminaries for "higher learning" opened by individuals. John Luther, a Baptist minister, started one of these. Sutherland's directory of Kansas City for 1860-61 carried the following advertisement of his young ladies' seminary:

"Kansas City Female Seminary

(Corner May and Cumberland Ave.)

Charles Fish	Principal
Ebenezer Fish	Assistant
Mrs. G. C. Bingham	Piano and Melodeon
Miss Cora Bingham	French, German, Drawing, Embroidery

The year is divided into sessions of five months each. First session commences September third. Second session commences February fifth.

Terms for Five Months' Session

Primary English	\$10.00
Higher English and Mathematics	12.00

Classics and higher Mathematics	15.00
Lessons on Piano and Melodeon	20.00
Use of Instrument	5.00
Incidentals, (fuel, sweeping, etc.)50
French, German and Embroidery (tuition extra)	
Lessons in vocal music, to school, (without charge)	
Vocal training	5.00"

Across the street from the Kansas City Female Seminary was the Kansas Seminary for Young Men. On October 24, 1857, the *Western Journal of Commerce* ran the following advertisement for this school:

"Kansas Seminary

The exercises of this institution will be resumed on the First Monday in September next. The session is divided into terms of twenty weeks each.

Charges per term (due in advance)

For orthography, reading, writing, etc.	\$ 8.00
For grammar, geography, arithmetic, etc.	12.00
For Latin, Greek, and algebra, etc.	15.00
Contingent expenses	1.00

The rote system is discarded and students are taught to think and to reason for themselves on every subject presented to them. We want students and no others, and those who are disposed to waste their time in idleness, in vicious language or practices will be promptly returned to their parents or guardians. We bespeak a liberal patronage.

L. Moore, A. B.
Mrs. S. J. Moore."

During the Civil War, when people were so concerned with the safety of their own lives that they had no time to think about education, both schools were closed.

There were still other private schools in the early days of Kansas City's history. Some families were so eager for their children to be educated that they organized schools and agreed to pay the schoolmaster.

"An enterprising young man, claiming to be a teacher, would walk into a community unannounced, and make the rounds with a written contract, binding each subscriber to pay to the said teacher a stipulated sum per pupil, for a school term of usually three months.—There was no such thing as a building fund; every able-bodied man in the neighborhood was expected to lend a hand in cutting and hewing the logs and to be at the house

raising' . . . (when the logs were in place) the house was then chinked and daubed, after the places had been cut out of the walls for one door, one or two small windows and a large fireplace. The door was made of common upright boards hung on wooden hinges and fastened with the traditional latchstring lock. The floor was made of puncheons laid on logs for joists. The chimney was on the outside . . . The heating was from the fireplace and ventilation through the stick and clay chimney . . . The plumbing was a neighboring spring, a wooden pail and a drinking gourd.

"The furniture consisted of a writing desk, made of a board, . . . with the upward edge against the side of the house and fastened. For the children, the seats were puncheons . . . in which legs were inserted. For the teacher, a small table and an old-fashioned round-legged chair, seated with split bark of the hickory."

The earliest of these subscription schools was conducted by James Froman, a Kentuckian, during the winter of 1838, in a little log schoolhouse standing where Thirty-third Street crosses Monroe Avenue today. Another subscription school was started in Westport in 1839, and about a year later Hickman School was opened on Stone's Plantation, in what is now Elmwood Cemetery. This school was known by several names. One of these was "Stone's School," since most of the fifteen children of Judge Stone attended it. Another was "Gooseneck School" because of the curves of a little stream nearby.

One of the best known schools of pioneer days was the Border Star, built in 1863, and named for a newspaper published by Southern sympathizers living south of Westport. When Brigadier General Ewing's famous Order Number Eleven drove all Confederates within Jackson, Clay, and Cass Counties from their homes, those living south of Brush Creek were forced to flee into a safe area bounded by the Big Blue River and Brush Creek. They remained there until danger was past, and when they returned to their homes, one of the first things they did was to build a school for their children. (The site they chose is the present site of the Border Star School.)

The Fight for Public Schools (1867-80)

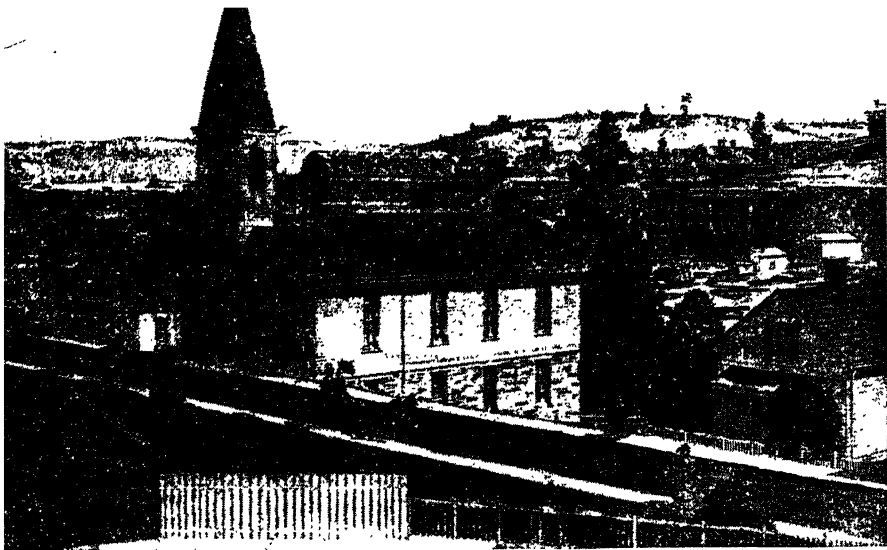
The need for tax-supported public schools was not felt in the City of Kansas until just before the Civil War. The story

of their beginning reaches back to 1861, when most of the settlers wanted their sons to be able to read a bill of sale, a contract, deed, newspaper, or ballot. They wanted their daughters to know how to write letters and answer invitations in a pretty hand, to be able to figure their sales of butter and eggs or the price of calico and muslin, to copy a recipe, or to read from the family Bible. So the citizens wanted their children to master the three R's, "Readin', Ritin', and 'Rithmetic." For this reason they established public schools where these subjects could be taught. In order to do this, most people were willing to have their property taxed for the support of their schools.

There had been provision for public school funds in Missouri since 1821. In that year, when Missouri became a state, Congress set aside every sixteenth section of land for the benefit of the schools, as well as seventy-two sections of saline or salt spring lands. When permission was given to sell the land under an act of the legislature in 1839, the profits from their sale formed the beginning of a state school fund. The state superintendent had the power to distribute this fund to the counties having public schools according to the number of white children between six and eighteen years of age.

By 1865, the Missouri legislature declared for a system of free schools, but Kansas Citians had already shown their eagerness to establish them as early as 1861. In that year, the state legislature approved the organization of a body to be known as the Kansas City Board of Public Schools, which would govern the business affairs of the school system it wished to set up. In the spring of 1862, the city council voted \$1500 to be spent for schools. The Board chose a building and employed three teachers. The mayor, however, vetoed these measures on the grounds that the Board was planning for one large school rather than separate schools for each ward.

Before the subject of public schools could be reopened and the fight to establish them continued, the Civil War stopped



The first school in the Second Presbyterian church basement

any plans for education. Schools of all kinds were closed during the bloody conflict. At its end, however, some people saw that they were neglecting their children and were shocked to realize that their sons and daughters were growing up in ignorance and could neither read nor write. They were eager to start public schools in spite of the indifference and even the opposition of some of the citizens of the town. Encouraged by a more liberal school law which had been passed by the state legislature in 1866, leaders in the City of Kansas decided to organize a public school system. By 1867, a group of them had met, and elected a school board which had the power to issue bonds and erect school buildings.

But before the Board was able to construct its own buildings, schools were opened in rented quarters—"old deserted dwellings, unoccupied storerooms, and damp gloomy basements in some of the churches." According to the memories of one of the earliest pupils in a public school in the City of Kansas, the first class was held in the basement of the Second Presbyterian Church. These early classrooms were poorly furnished and equipped, as well as overcrowded. But they were a beginning made by the

community toward the education of its 2,150 children. These boys and girls were under the direction of a superintendent and sixteen teachers.

The Washington school was the first to be built by the public school system. It stood at the corner of Independence Avenue and Cherry Street, and was opened in April, 1868. The building had eight rooms and could take care of five hundred children. During November of the same year the six-room Humboldt School at Twelfth and Locust Streets was opened. Franklin School at Fourteenth and Jefferson was opened in 1869. Lincoln and Lathrop Schools, which had been housed in church basements in 1867, had their own buildings by 1869 and 1870. Lincoln started at what were then Chestnut and McGee Streets, and Lathrop at Eighth and May. Other elementary schools were Benton (1868) at Fourteenth and Liberty, Karnes (1870) at

The first Benton school



Pacific and Holmes, Morse at Twentieth and Charlotte, Sumner (1870) at Santa Fe and North Eighth, and Woodland (1871) at Eighth and Woodland.

The first high school in Kansas City was the old Central High School, originally called Kansas City High School. It was opened in 1867, on the first floor of Starke's Building at Eleventh and Locust. This was a two story, two-room building with an outside stairway. The offices of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools were on the second floor. For the first two years the superintendent acted as principal of the high school. J. B. Bradley (1867-68) and E. P. Tucke (1868-69) were each superintendent, principal, and the entire teaching staff for the twenty-nine pupils in high school.

In 1876, the name of Kansas City High School was changed to Central School because certain wealthy taxpayers objected to using public money for support of "higher education." Most of the people were commencing to see the value of the elementary school, but as yet could not see the need for a public high school.

A mission school, opened in 1865, was the first school for Negro children in Kansas City. The first public school building for Negro children was opened in 1868, when J. D. Bowser was employed to teach the two hundred and sixty living in the community. His first classroom was an old church containing neither desks nor blackboards. This was the beginning of the Lincoln school. A year later the school moved into its own building, but it was not until 1880 that high school classes were held there.-

During the first two years, public education had quite a struggle in this frontier town. By the time that J. R. Phillips became the superintendent (1869-74), the schools which had been laws unto themselves were organized into a workable system. It was during this time that the plan of seven grades for elementary schools and four years for high school was adopted. However, in 1876, school funds were so low that it was voted to shorten

the high school course to two years. This measure appears to have been necessary for only one year.

Reaching Beyond the 3 R's (1880-1913)

There was still some public feeling against education paid for by taxation when J. M. Greenwood became superintendent in 1874, but by 1880, it was an established fact that a majority of the taxpayers favored free elementary schools. Mr. Greenwood believed firmly that a prosperous community owed an education to its children, and that when these became citizens, they in turn could help to increase the wealth of the community. He further believed that the course of study should be increased, and during his term of office, calisthenics and physical culture (1885), shorthand and typewriting (1886), music (1890), manual training (1893), kindergarten (1895), home economics (1897), and art (1899) courses were added. Kindergartens originally had been started as private schools and had been held in vacant rooms of school buildings. Mr. Greenwood was also greatly interested in the physical growth and development of children, and the records show that as early as 1886 they were weighed and measured during the school year.

As people in Kansas City began to realize the value of high schools, the Board of Education built three of them. Various additions were made as more and more children became interested in going to high school. Within a span of twenty-two years, Central (1875), Lincoln (1890), and Manual Training (1897) high schools were built. Manual Training High School was built especially for training "the hand and the mind." This school offered the subjects usually given in the program of any other high school, but in addition gave courses in home economics, mechanical drawing, freehand drawing, and commercial subjects with manual training as a requirement. Manual training had already been started on a small scale in the Garrison School in the late nineties. Today shop work, now known as industrial arts, is found in every school.

Another high school became a part of the city school system in 1899. This was Westport, a high school which had been serving the Westport district for fourteen years. At the same time, four elementary schools from that town were annexed to the city system.

Even though many citizens appreciated the benefits of high school education, there were some who did not consider it important enough to insist that their children attend regularly. There were also some employers who hired young children, a practice which kept them from going to school. So in 1905, the state legislature passed a law making school attendance compulsory for children between the ages of eight and fourteen for at least three-fourths of the school year. As a result, attendance in Kansas City high schools increased.

When Mr. Greenwood first became superintendent of schools in Kansas City, there were only about sixty school superintendents in the nation. He was considered a pioneer by these because of his leadership in planning for the supervision and management of school affairs. He was forward looking enough to see the need for increasing the school year from nine to ten months (1904), and for establishing a teacher training department in Central High School (1910). Mr. Greenwood was a great educational leader who served the Kansas City schools for nearly forty years.

Applying Science to Learning (1913-1929)

Different ideas in education found their way into the Kansas City school system through teachers who had been trained in the belief that a method of instruction was just as important as a subject to be taught. These teachers also were interested in teaching history and geography as subjects dealing with people and their dependence upon each other rather than as unrelated dates and places. They further thought that what had been taught to children could be measured by tests, scientifically made

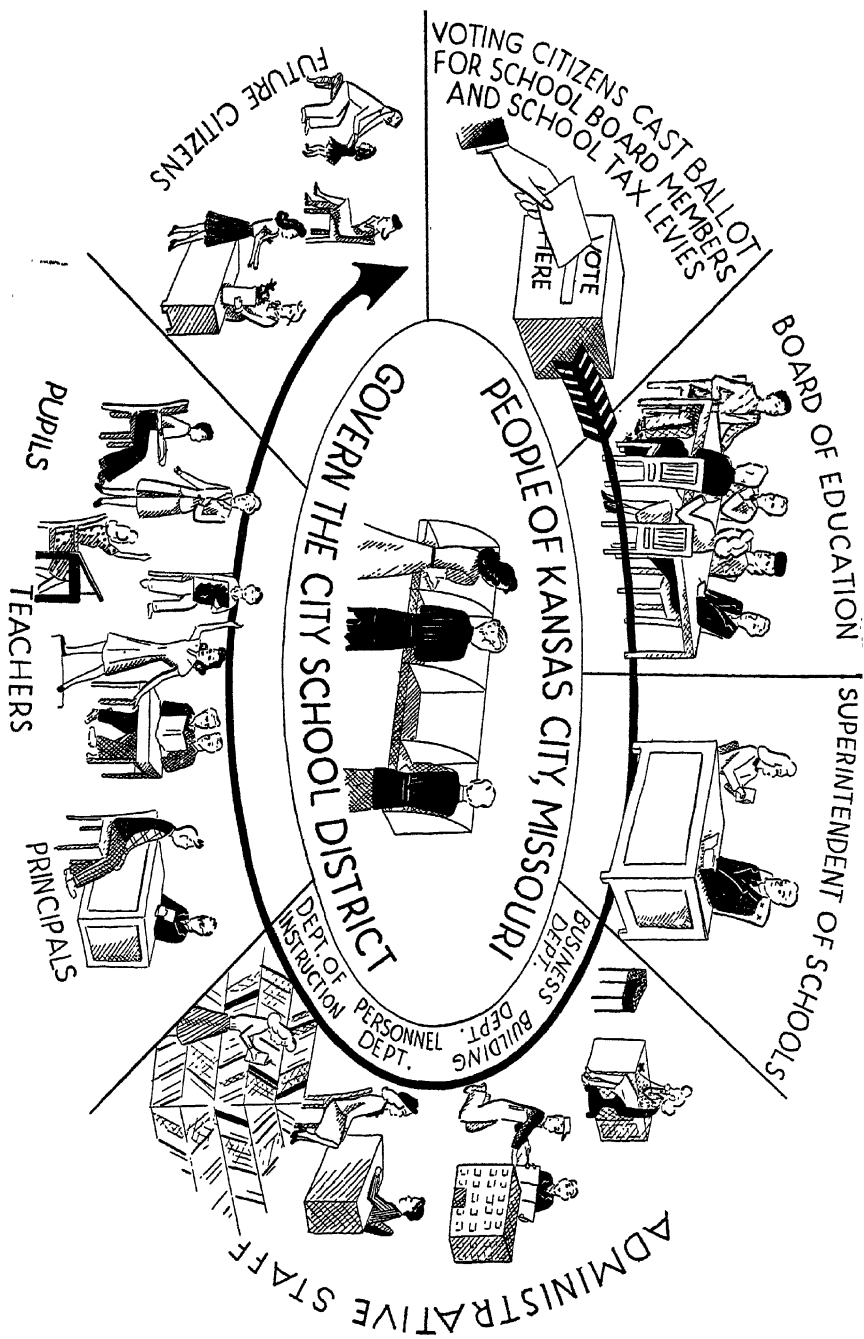
and given. Programs of instruction were then planned around the results of these tests. This method of applying science to learning was introduced at a time when the schools had new problems to meet.

With the passage of the compulsory school law came the need to educate and care for all the children of all the people. And by this time, too, people were becoming more conscious of children's needs and the community's obligation to them. Before then, however, handicapped children were not considered the responsibility of the schools. Yet children faced with the problems of deafness, poor eyesight, physical disability, or low levels of mental ability needed special care in special classes.

By the time Mr. I. I. Cammack (1913-29) became superintendent, this need was so definite that it had to be met, and his term of office is known particularly as a period when special classes were organized. Open air rooms, sight saving classes, classrooms for the deaf, and those for children of different mental abilities were opened, and teachers especially trained in these fields started their work.

When teachers had been secured for these special rooms, the question then arose of who should be allowed to go to them. The Board of Education appointed experts in achievement testing and research (1914), in psychology (1919), in special primary skills (1919), in intermediate grades (1929), and in program planning (1926). These specialists aided in placing children where they could get the most benefit possible from their school experiences.

The idea of vocational training was spreading rapidly throughout the country. In 1917, the Smith-Hughes Act was passed by Congress granting federal funds to the states for training in trade, home economics, and industrial subjects. Three Kansas City school men then drafted "House Bill No. 438," which passed the General Assembly of the State of Missouri in the same year, and guaranteed the use of federal funds throughout



the state. Kansas City first received these funds in 1919, and they are now being applied to vocational training courses in two special schools—Manual High and Vocational School and R. T. Coles Junior and Vocational School.

By this time, too, people had become interested in having their children go beyond high school for their education. To meet this demand, Junior College was opened in 1915 as a two-year college. Five years before, a class for training teachers had been opened. Teachers' College grew from this beginning, and here, until it was closed in 1944, many Kansas City teachers learned the skills of their profession.

Certain other changes occurred during this period. The age for entering kindergarten was lowered from six to five years. Before 1913, school children had to buy all their textbooks, but from then on, books were furnished to all elementary schools by the Board of Education. During the prosperous '20's, thirty-two new school buildings were erected and forty-nine additions made to old ones at a cost of \$15,000,000. This was the largest building program in the history of the schools. Four junior high schools were also built during that time for the seventh grade and freshman class. It was considered wise for children of these ages to have special teachers for special subjects, and this could be done best in schools built for the purpose.

When scientific methods were applied to learning in the program of the public schools, they resulted in the growth of special classes, departments for aiding the development of children, and adequate buildings to meet their needs.

Depression Days (1929-1941)

During the '30's, Kansas City, with the rest of the nation, passed through a time of business depression. With unemployment widespread and taxes hard to collect, the schools could only try to hold fast to the gains they had made. There was little opportunity to add to equipment or buildings. Teachers' salaries



1. Art—Provides means for creative expression.
2. Public Library—Educates you through books.
3. Psychological Clinic—Tests mental abilities.
4. Counseling—Guides your choice of courses.
5. Food Service—Provides nourishing lunches.
6. Public Information—Informs through press and radio.





7. Family Education—Advises in family problems.

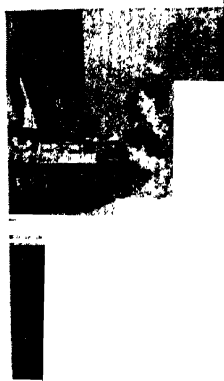
8. Vocational Education—Trains for trades.

9. Administrative Office—Shapes educational policies.

10. Visual Aid—Provides educational movies.

11. High Schools and Junior College—Develop basic skills.

12. Visiting Teacher and Census—Checks your attendance record.



were cut. But under the leadership of Mr. George Melcher, superintendent (1928-1940), every service which was previously given to children was maintained in spite of the financial difficulties of the schools. Kindergarten classes, homemaking and industrial arts, health services, and skilled supervision were still offered.

The schools, during this difficult time, managed to retain their high quality of instruction and work accomplished. Even some advances were made. More training in vocational education was given. Courses of study were broadened. Two new high schools were built, an addition was made to a third, and a school for crippled children was opened. This school is one of the most perfectly arranged and completely equipped in the country. Provision is made in it for the treatment of physical defects, training in handwork, and educational instruction. Groups of interested men and women provide additional equipment and service for this unusual school.

It was during the later years of the depression period that a new idea of education began to spread in Kansas City schools. During the time of the three R's, emphasis had been placed upon teaching a subject to a class. This meant that the teacher's first concern was that pupils master all the facts of a subject. As ideas in education changed, however, the growth of children and their development as personalities became of first importance. Though no substitute for knowledge has ever been found, the schools have become increasingly concerned with how boys and girls think, their ability to weigh facts, to draw conclusions, and to act upon them.

Practicing Democracy (1941—)

Public schools have always been considered the bulwark of democracy. They have stood for the principle of free education for all the people. They have recognized that to take part in a democratic form of government, a citizen must be well-educated.

However, their methods of instruction within the schools have often been determined without consulting the pupils, their parents, or the community.

With the coming of World War II, democracy became more precious than ever before to every American. Whereas in the years between the first and second World Wars it had been an ideal to strive for, democracy now became something which must be put into practice in every walk of life.

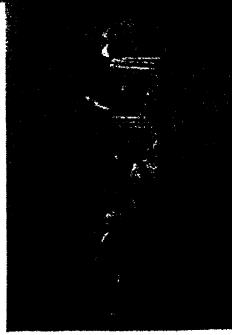
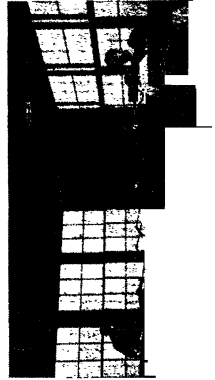
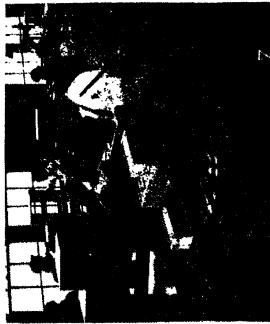
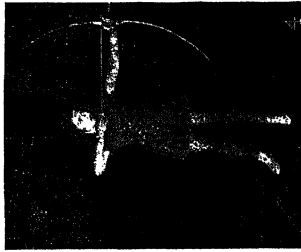
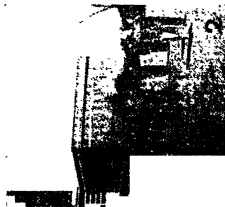
So, too, must democracy be practiced in the classroom. Kansas City schools more than ever before planned their curriculum around its ideals. Community needs were studied and pupils were given opportunity to take part in community life. Parents were invited to share the responsibilities of planning with the schools for their children's welfare. Pupils and teachers worked together in activities of interest to all.

A survey had been made in 1939 to determine the needs of the city's school system, and of its sources of income. The superintendent, Dr. Herold C. Hunt (1940—), the administrative staff, and the teachers all worked together to carry out the recommendations made in this survey. There was a revision of the teachers' salary schedule. The Junior and Teachers' Colleges were moved into the building which had formerly been used by Westport Junior High School. School cafeteria services were greatly improved. More vocational training was also given. An eighth grade was added in the fall of 1945 in order that boys and girls might be older in years, more mature in judgment, and better prepared to take their place in the adult world.

While improvements were constantly being made which added to the usefulness of the public schools, they were brought about through the practice of planning together. More and more, both children and teachers realized the need to become a part of group living. The greatest challenge to democracy in the schools came with the beginning of World War II.



1. Curriculum—Prepares guides for study.
2. Military Science—Develops military skills.
3. Music—Provides for creative expression.
4. Health and Physical Education—Develops your body.
5. Elementary Education—Develops basic skills in learning.
6. Recreation—Offers fun to aid development.
7. Industrial Arts—Train hand and eye.
8. Agriculture—Builds basis for the natural sciences.
9. Vocational Education—Trains for trades.
10. Homemaking—Promotes skills for home and society.



Then the services of the schools were increased to meet the demands of a global war. Boys and girls from both elementary and high school bought war bonds and stamps, collected waste fat, paper, and scrap metal, and took part in Red Cross and Civilian Defense activities. In addition, the high schools gave special training to senior boys, soon to enlist, in aeronautics, mathematics, physics, and human science. They learned how to care for and protect their bodies, and received preparation and background for the specialized training which the government would later give them. A great contribution was also made by the Vocational Department of the public schools. Through this department about 20,000 men and women were trained for work in war industries.

The interest of Kansas City schools in preparing young people to accept their work responsibilities did not end with the close of the war. In many cases returned service men, who had not finished high school, were given credit for educational experiences received while in service and granted a high school diploma.

Classes for adults, too, including returned veterans and civilians, were offered in 1945 in a way which made it possible for the students to study at their own rate of speed. Under this system there are no regular classes and those enrolled for study pass only after taking standardized tests. These are given when the teacher and the student agree that he is ready. For returning veterans who are residents of Kansas City, a public high school diploma was given after they had passed tests of general educational development.

A glance at the photographs on the preceding pages will tell some of the ways in which public schools are prepared to help you. From the day you enter kindergarten until the time you leave the classroom, you are given the benefit of specialized training. You are weighed and measured, and you are taught desirable health practices and ways to balance your diet. Your

training in basic skills is fitted to your abilities. Your understanding of American and other cultures is broadened. You learn how to enjoy music, art, and radio, as well as to know the thrill of making something with your own hands. Your home is visited when you are ill or out of school for any reason. You are given counsel and advice in planning your high school program and in choosing your life vocation. You have an opportunity to see how you measure up in play, in study, and in work. You are given your chance to become a happy, well-adjusted citizen, ready to meet life and its demands.

Your community has shown its faith in you by offering you an education. Your public schools are in truth your gilt-edged security for democracy.

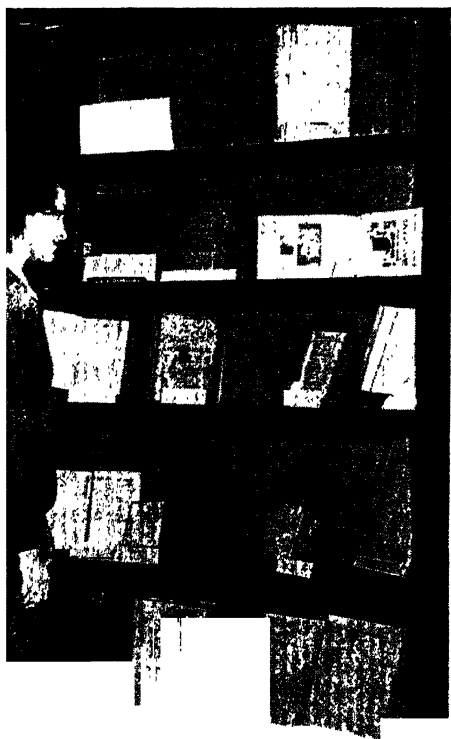
The Library (1873—)

Through the years the Board of Education has invested in another preferred stock—that of the public library. It started in 1873, when the school board held a series of lectures and donated a profit of \$98.80 to a library fund. This was the beginning of the "Public School Library of Kansas City," started for the use of the officers, teachers, and scholars of the public schools. Eight dollars of this amount were used to purchase a bookcase, and the remainder was spent for books. These were on the second floor of old Central High School, and the superintendent of schools and the secretary of the Board of Education acted as librarians.

In 1875, the Ladies Centennial Association was organized, and planned to send a representative from Kansas City to the Philadelphia Exposition the following year. Their plans were not carried out, however, and they gave the amount they had raised (\$490) to the library. Further gifts of money and books were made, and in 1881, the Board of Education put on a campaign to collect books, hiring a school principal to go about with a horse and wagon during the summer and canvas the town.

By 1883, the library had become such a part of the life of the city that the Board of Education realized that it needed to be supported by taxation. They were able to secure an amendment from the state legislature permitting them to use a certain part of the school fund amounting to no more than \$2500 annually for library purposes. In 1889, the Board received permission to build a library through the sale of bonds. This building was erected at Ninth and Locust Streets in 1897, and its opening was a great occasion. A touch of color was added by nine pages wearing green and gold uniforms.

The earliest library, however—as was true of Kansas City's first schools—was not free to the public, but was a subscription library opened in 1876. Anyone wishing to use the library had to pay a yearly fee of two dollars for a "ticket." Juniors and Seniors in high school were the first to be excused from paying



The first
public
library

this fee in 1890, then Sophomores and Freshmen two years later, and by the next year, the seventh and eighth grades. The library became a free public library in 1898.

While this frontier town was growing into a great city, so, too, was its library expanding to satisfy the interests of its many readers. From its small beginning with a few volumes, its shelves are now filled with thousands of classified books. Its departments have been increased. Fifteen branch libraries have been placed in various sections of the community, beginning in 1898, when Westport Library was annexed and opened as the first branch library.

The slogan of the Public Library has become, "With this card, the world is yours!" There are 186,000 holders of library cards in Kansas City, or 46% of the population. When they take advantage of the many services to which it entitles them they can indeed travel world routes.

To get the most satisfaction from your library, you need to know how to use it. It has as many departments as there are in a department store, and you must know where to go to find what you want. In the Main Library there is an Information Desk to help you. There is a Circulation Desk where you check books in or out or renew them by telephone. Here also you may ask for a book to be held in reserve. You may want to linger awhile in the Browsing Room or the Young People's Corner. You may be amazed to know that over 35,000 books are catalogued each year, that there are 80 different newspapers from cities all over the country, as well as 2,000 magazines and trade journals in the Reading Room. In this room, too, are stacks where clippings are filed. Thousands of questions are answered in the Reference Room each year. A collection of 84,000 government documents is filed for study. There is a department which gives special service to teachers as well as one for children.

Books are sent to several hospitals to bring cheer to patients there. Collections are also sent to classrooms in the schools and

to various industrial plants. The Public Library not only serves the people who come to its Main building, but it is constantly reaching out into the community.

Branch libraries have become neighborhood centers. From the time when you are first able to sign your name, you are entitled to a library card. Over 70,000 children in Kansas City hold these. Young and old alike meet in the branch libraries, drawn there by their common love of books. It is here that high school boys and girls learn how to look for reference material as well as for their favorite authors, and here their younger brothers and sisters learn more about books and are charmed by the Library Story Hours. Librarians from the various branches interest children within their neighborhoods in summer reading projects and in summer libraries opened in some of the other public school buildings.

Many people in Kansas City feel that the Public Library has outgrown its present building. Plans are being made to choose a site for a new one and to find a way to finance it. A committee of citizens representing business and professional men, club women, church, school, and labor organizations are planning together in the interests of the thousands of people who use the library.

YOUR RATE OF INTEREST: YOUR LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY

Today you are a pupil in a classroom. Tomorrow you will be a citizen in a community. When you vote today for the president of the student council, you are exercising the same rights of citizenship that you will later use when you become a voter in your community. When you plan with committees in your home room, or civics class, you are learning how to state your beliefs, prove your points, be able to give and take, and abide by decisions made through group action. In the same way, you may some day plan with civic groups on a larger scale. Your interest

in a playground clean-up campaign while in school carries over into your future concern for a public health project. Your desire to solve the problems of the school lunch room may go with you into planning city trafficways in later years. Your methods of preparing your lessons may become your ways of tackling your job.

When you go from your class rooms into community life, you take with you the understanding and appreciation of democracy which you have learned in school. As you explore your neighborhood and city and learn about its industries, government, and social problems, you will build an understanding of the world about you.

A LONG TERM INVESTMENT: YOUR FUTURE CAREER

When you finish school, you will take your place in a world where you must earn your living and depend upon yourself. You will have to make choices and stand by your decisions. You will have to compete with the abilities of others. At the same time, however, you will be living in a world where cooperation is one of the requirements of society. For these reasons, you will need to make use of every opportunity which the schools offer you for community living.

You have already spent eight or nine years in school, and are now at a point where you are seriously considering the years of education which lie ahead of you. You want to get from them the training which you need for the work you will do. You want to know where the best opportunities are for your special abilities, and what courses you must take to be ready for the career you choose. Through the help of your civics teacher and the counselor in your high school, you are given the chance to take an inventory of your interests and skills—to find out if they are mechanical, scientific, artistic, literary, musical, or clerical. You also have the opportunity to analyze your personality and how to develop it. Then the stories of various careers

are presented to you through movies, personal interviews, books, and your own part-time work. (See Chapter 15.)

By the end of your freshman year, you will be selecting courses for your next year's program. You will want to choose those which will help you most in the career you may decide to follow. It is most important that you have a broad understanding of many occupations in order to chart your year's program to fit your needs. If you plan to go to work as soon as you leave high school, you will want to be sure that you do not waste time on courses which will be of little use to you. Balance your program so carefully that you will be taking advantage of the best the public schools offer to train you for what you want to be.

Or do you plan to go to college? If so, you may want to follow a different sort of program. You will want to take subjects which will help you to meet college entrance requirements. In Kansas City, you are fortunate enough to have a Junior College, maintained by the public schools and having a yearly tuition fee of only seventy-five dollars. Here you may begin training for an occupation or a profession. From Junior College you may enter any college or university you choose. Or without leaving your own city, you may receive a college degree from the University of Kansas City, a school maintained by private funds and endowment gifts.

If you wish to realize dividends on your investment in learning, you will make the most of your educational advantages.



3. Temples of Worship

THREE GREAT FAITHS

During World War II, when the cargo transport *Dorchester* was sailing in iceberg waters, she was torpedoed and sunk ninety miles from Greenland. While the ship was sinking, four chaplains who were aboard—a Catholic, a Jew, and two Protestants—worked side by side passing out life belts to panic-stricken men. When the last of the belts had been given out, the chaplains took off their own and gave them away, too, even though they knew they would lose their lives by this sacrifice. One of the crew later told of seeing the chaplains, as the ship went down, standing arm in arm as they prayed for the drowning men.

These chaplains represented three great religious faiths in America today—Jewish, Catholic, and Protestant. Men of these three faiths were together aboard the transport because our country stands for religious freedom and the men in her armed forces fought for this right as one of the Four Freedoms. The chaplains were united in their worship of God, even though they worshipped Him in different ways.

The religious life of Kansas City has been made richer and more colorful because of the contributions of these three great faiths. You may belong to one of these, either because it is the faith of your parents or because you chose it as your own. Besides being familiar with the customs and the history of your church, you will want to know more about those of other faiths so that you may become a more understanding and tolerant person. After gaining an appreciation of all three faiths, you will be better able to live in harmony with your neighbors in your community.

Although there are differences in the forms of our religious customs and beliefs, yet we all believe in one God. We also read from the Bible, we devote one day of each week to worship, and we try to follow the Ten Commandments. And we believe, too, in these commandments: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength,

and with all thy mind," and, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Scattered throughout Kansas City are the tall spires, the round domes, and the chiming belfries of many temples of worship. In the city today there are two hundred and forty-eight churches, representing over forty different faiths—each of them the outward expression of the beliefs of their members. Yet nearly all of them fall into the three large divisions: Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish. Those worshiping in a cathedral, a church, or a synagogue are all seeking a deeper, richer life through contact with God.

IN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

When a Catholic boy or girl begins to go to church, he or she may enter a small parish church or a great cathedral. It may be simply decorated or richly ornamented. But it is nearly always built in the shape of the cross which stands for Christianity. There is a broad center aisle in the church with an altar at the far end, covered with three linen cloths and glowing in the dim light of flickering candles. In the nave, or center hall, pews for the congregation are set on either side of the aisle. The word nave, meaning ship, has always suggested that the church provides a place of safety from the storms of life just as a ship does from storms at sea.

According to Catholic beliefs, Jesus Christ founded the Christian church. Then the world seemed small. To those who followed the teachings of Jesus and organized themselves into a church, the only world they knew was the land surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. Those early Christians named their church the Holy Catholic church, for the word Catholic means world-wide. Although the earliest Christian writings were in Greek, the language of the early Romans—Latin, soon came to be used by almost all Catholic churches. The church teaches its members what they should believe, how they should live to be found pleas-

ing to God, and to understand the traditions and customs of their church.

Within Catholic churches are statues and pictures of Bible stories and of the lives of the saints. From these the earliest Christians learned some of the history of their church, since there were no printed books for them to read. The custom of having stained glass windows, painted murals, and statuary is still in use today. The most important service in the Catholic church is the Mass, which Catholics believe to be the continuation of the Sacrifice of Calvary.

Many Catholic children go to schools of their own faith to receive religious as well as elementary, high school, and college instruction. There are thirty-four parochial schools in Kansas City, attended by over nine thousand eight hundred children, as well as Notre Dame de Sion, Loretto and De la Salle academies, Glennon, Hogan, and Lillis High Schools, and Rockhurst and St. Teresa Colleges.

The interior of a Catholic church



The baptistry
in a Catholic
Church



There are many religious festivals in the Catholic church, but one which is celebrated the world over is Christ's Mass, or Christmas. This is the joyous feast honoring the birth of the infant Jesus. The story of His birth is shown in the figures of the creche or manger scene, placed at the side of the altar in a bower of evergreens.

Easter, too, is a widely celebrated universal festival. It is the day which marks Christ's rising from the dead, and follows Lent. The Lenten season lasts for the forty days that Jesus spent in prayer and fasting in the wilderness, and is a time of sorrow and penance. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, when the mark of the cross is made in ashes on the forehead of each church member. This is to show that he repents of his sins, even as men of old wore sack-cloth and sprinkled themselves with ashes to show their repentance. The last Sunday of Lent is Palm Sunday, when palm leaves are carried to celebrate the

entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem. Good Friday is a day of sadness in remembrance of the death of Christ. Easter Sunday is a time of great rejoicing, with hymns of praise and gladness.

There have been people of the Catholic faith in Kansas City ever since its beginning, for Catholic priests were the first clergymen to come here. They came to minister to the French trappers and traders who made their living by selling the furs from animals which they found along the river. The American Fur Company in St. Louis realized that religion stimulated courage and bravery, and that there was a need for it in the frontier town. The company also believed that religious-minded employees were apt to be more honest and anxious to look out for the company's interest, so they encouraged priests to go to Chouteau's Trading Post. The first of these was Father La Croix, who came west in 1821 and spent some time in the French settlement. He was followed by a young German priest who did missionary work among the Indians.

Another priest, Father Benedict Roux, came to the mouth of the Kaw in 1833, and said mass in the Chouteau home. He bought the first piece of Catholic church property, a tract of land extending from Ninth to Twelfth Street and from Broadway to Summit Street. For these forty acres he paid the sum of six dollars. Here was built in 1837 a small log church which was named St. Francis Regis. Father Le Roux and his Indian pony were a familiar sight in Kansas and southwest Missouri.

The modern history of the Catholic church in Kansas City began with the coming of Father Donnelly in 1845. He was the resident pastor of Independence and the Town of Kansas was one of his missions until 1857, when he lived permanently in what is now Kansas City. Father Donnelly's interest in the growing town increased with the years. By 1853, he was one of the townspeople who wanted to organize into a city having a charter, a mayor and council, a marshal, and a judge. Father Donnelly attended many meetings of the citizens who urged that township

lines be set aside and city limits be drawn, with Broadway on the west, Troost Avenue on the east, the Missouri River on the north, and Independence Avenue on the south.

The citizens who objected to the plan said that the city could never grow south because of the steep and rocky bluffs which seemed like little mountains, and that there were no shovels or contractors to tear these down. At that time, most of the people lived in the East or West bottoms.

Father Donnelly had an answer for the objectors. He declared he could supply enough Irish laborers to tear down the hills and fill in the valleys, to level off the streets, to build curbs, and to construct sewers. He advertised in eastern newspapers for labor. Three hundred Irishmen made the trip to the City of Kansas and went to work with pick and shovel. Soon hills were torn away, streets graded, and the town began to take on the appearance of a prairie city. Some of these workmen stayed to make homes here, while others pushed farther west.

Ten of the acres bought by Father Roux later became the site of the first brick church in Kansas City. It was started in 1856, and built of brick made by Father Donnelly, who claimed to have opened the first brickyard in Kansas City and who used

Catholic Cathedral



clay from his own ten-acre lot in making the bricks. This early church was the first of the many Catholic churches which have been built here through the years. Today they include thirty-seven churches and a membership of about fifty thousand.

Many social agencies in Kansas City are supported by the Catholic church, among them hospitals, neighborhood centers, a Community Library, children's homes, and homes for the aged. Through these various agencies, the Catholic Church takes an active part in community life.

IN PROTESTANT CHURCHES

When you drive over Kansas City you see many Protestant churches, yet by just noticing the outside of the buildings, you could not tell the faith of their members. There are many denominations or divisions within the Protestant faith and each chooses the type of church architecture pleasing to the tastes and suitable to the needs of its congregation. There is no set style of building for Protestant churches. Within Kansas City there are churches built like New England meeting houses with steeples reaching skyward, Gothic structures, Greek temples, and even a flat-roofed modernistic church.

There is probably less difference on the inside of Protestant churches, however, for they all have a large assembly room with benches or pews, and a platform with a pulpit for holding the Bible. A choir loft, or section for the choir, is generally in back of the pulpit or on each side of the altar. There may be either a piano or an organ, or both, for the congregations of Protestants sing more than those of Catholic or Jewish faiths. A favorite hymn, known to all, is the Doxology.

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.”

Sometimes there is a balcony so that the church can seat more people comfortably. Often there are stained glass windows, but there are no statues.

Protestants look to the Bible to guide them in their daily living. It is the final authority for their beliefs, and its words are God's message to them. Each Protestant is free to decide for himself what its teachings mean to him. Consequently, there are many different opinions among individual Protestants, and therefore there are many denominations. The names of these often tell something of their early beginnings or their beliefs. For instance, the Lutherans were named for Martin Luther, their founder. The Presbyterians took their name from the group of elders called "Presbyters" who govern the church. Congregationalists think that the congregation itself should decide what course the church should follow, and Baptists believe in adult baptizing by immersion. Methodists are strict in following a set method in practicing their religious duties. The Episcopal church

The interior of a Protestant church





A class in a
Protestant
church
school

takes its name from its bishop, or "episcopates."

No matter what the church—and there are nearly forty denominations in the city—each has an interesting reason for its name. Yet all are united in the belief that religion is a way of life with God as its central power. All, too, believe in the power of prayer. Most of their ministers give sermons based on a text from the Bible or the teachings of Jesus, and follow it with applications to everyday life. Churches of the different denominations observe Communion, the Last Supper, and keep the holidays of Christmas, the New Year, and Easter.

The services in Protestant churches are simple. When they are over, the members gather in groups to visit with each other and greet the minister. Because Protestants believe that their children should receive religious training, they have Church Schools for them. Here they learn Bible stories and verses, religious songs, ways to tell right from wrong, and to think of Jesus as their friend.

The spirit of friendliness which today makes a church a second home to many was even more noticeable in the early days of Kansas City. Then the church was the center of social as well as religious life. Not long after the Catholics built the first

An early
Protestant church
building



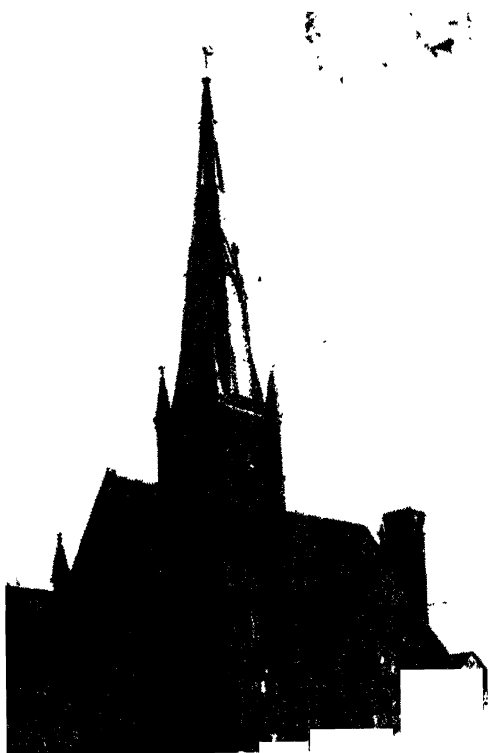
church in Kansas City, a Methodist minister, the Reverend Mr. James Porter, journeyed here from Tennessee. After traveling with his family many weary miles across the wilderness and prairie, he reached the French settlement on the Kaw River bank. He searched the surrounding forests for a suitable home-site, and finally chose one south of the town at what is now Twenty-seventh Street and Tracy Avenue.

After the Reverend Mr. Porter had built his home of oak logs from nearby woods and from rock quarried on the spot, he formed a church class. This was held in the home of William M. Chick in Westport, until he moved to the Town of Kansas in 1844. At that time, he and Mr. Porter, as well as several other settlers, decided to build a log schoolhouse which would serve as both school and church. This building stood at Missouri Avenue and Walnut Street, and became the church home of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, organized in 1845. By 1852, the congregation moved into a brick church at Fifth Street, between Delaware and Wyandotte. By 1856, this building, as well as several other churches, needed repairs and furnishings. So the church women of the town held a fair on board a steamboat, icebound at the levee on Main Street, to raise funds. The cap-

tain of the boat, Alexander Gillham, helped the ladies manage the fair, which proved a great success.

During the Civil War, the Methodist church was used as a hospital for Confederate prisoners. Since there was no Red Cross organization in those days, the ladies of the church nursed the sick and wounded.

After the Methodist church was built, many other Protestant denominations established churches in the growing city. Some were organized before the Civil War, but when the fighting came so near the city and soldiers were quartered here, church life suffered and congregations disbanded. The few church buildings were often used for military purposes. However, in the years directly before and following the Civil War, the Baptists (1855), Christians (1855), Presbyterians (1857), Congregationalists (1866), and the Unitarians (1868) had all built churches. While



Another
early day
church

these were the first Protestant congregations to have their own church buildings in Kansas City, they were soon followed by many others. Today there are about one hundred thousand members of all Protestant denominations on the rolls of churches here.

Many churches are part of a city-wide Council of Churches which tries to present a united Protestant opinion, to act on important community problems where there is a need, and to exchange ideas and information between churches and other community agencies. This council sponsors radio broadcasts, vacation Bible schools, a city-wide Good Friday service, and a weekly church school in thirty-seven centers.

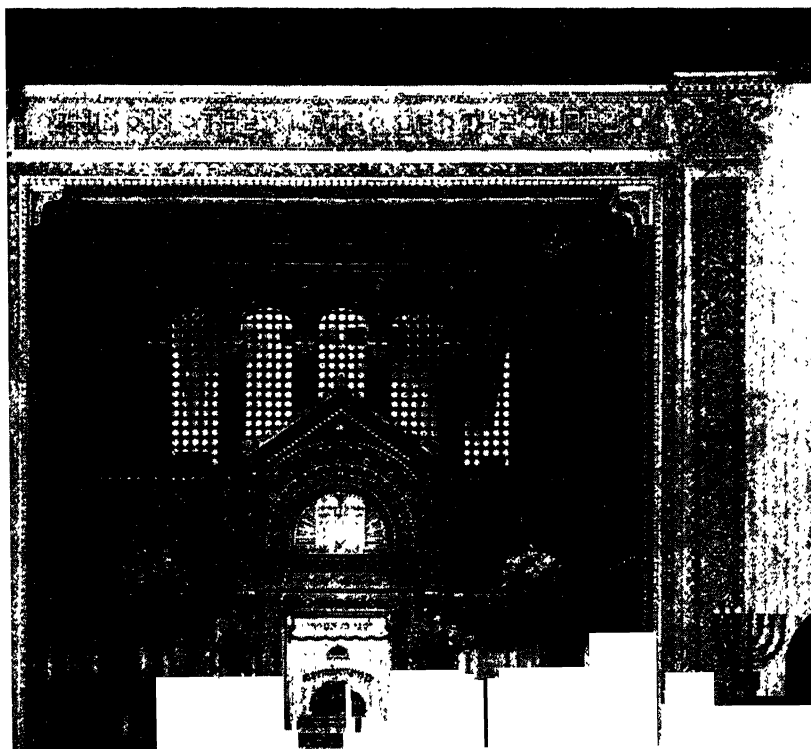
The various churches support many welfare organizations of widely different interests. These include three hospitals, several missions, community houses, homes for the aged and convalescents, a child health center, and a training school for religious leaders. All were founded on the belief that "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

IN JEWISH TEMPLES AND SYNAGOGUES

Religious services for Jewish people in Kansas City are held in synagogues or temples. The Greek word "synagogue" means a place of assembly. Synagogues today are the meeting place of the orthodox Jews, or those who follow the traditions and practices of Biblical times, and of the conservative group. Temples are built by the congregations of Reform Jews. American Jews of the Reform group, as early as 1824, decided not to observe all the ancient laws of their forefathers and broke away from the orthodox group. They were firm in the belief that the services and customs of their church should more nearly follow American ideas. Fifty years later, the Conservative group was organized and chose the middle course between the Reform and Orthodox groups.

Whenever possible, the assembly room of a synagogue faces east toward Jerusalem. At one end of the room is a platform on which stand the branched candelabra called menorahs. Above the platform there hangs a velvet curtain embroidered with a six-pointed star, the Shield of David. Above the curtain, on each side, may be the figure of a rampant lion. One is the symbol of the tribe of Juda, the other of the house of David. Often these support two stone tablets on which are carved in Hebrew the Ten Commandments given to Moses. In front of the curtain hangs the Eternal Light which is always kept burning. Behind a curtain or sliding door is the Sacred Ark, a cabinet built especially to hold the scrolls of the Torah, the first five books of the Bible. Some temples are made more lovely by the beauty of their stained glass windows which often tell in colorful design the story of the Hebrews.

Interior of a Synagogue



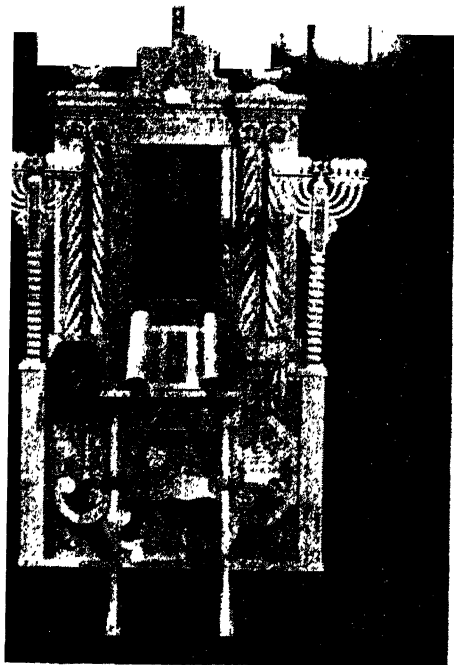
If you were a boy entering a synagogue for religious service, you would keep on your hat in respect to God, according to the custom of your forefathers, and be seated with your father and the other men of the congregation. If you were a girl, you would take your place in a separate section reserved for the women and girls. If, however, you entered a temple of the Conservative or Reform Jews, you would sit any place you chose. You would be led in singing by the rich voice of the cantor. You would listen to a sermon in Hebrew or English given by the Rabbi, whose title in Hebrew means "my teacher."

The Jews were the first people to believe that there is only one God and to set aside a Sabbath in which to worship Him. In all congregations, Saturday is the day chosen, according to the early Hebrew calendar.

A ceremony which is very important to a Jewish boy is his Bar Mitzvah, which occurs on the Sabbath nearest his thirteenth birthday. On this special occasion the boy goes with his family to the synagogue or temple, and takes his place as a member of the congregation, fasting and praying as his father does, and being allowed to wear the prayer shawl. From this time on, he becomes responsible for his own actions.

Holy days full of meaning to all Jewish people are those during the observance of the New Year. This ceremony comes in the fall of the year, according to the counting of the Hebrew calendar. It begins with Rosh Hashanah, the Day of Judgment, and ends with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. This period is called the Ten Days of Penitence, and is spent in prayer and doing for others.

Religion to the Jews, more than to any other people, is closely tied up with the home and family life. The Sabbath starts when the mother, on Friday evening, lights the candles on the dinner table just at sunset. This custom goes back to Biblical days, which were counted as lasting from sun to sun. As she lights



The altar
in a
Synagogue

the candles, the mother prays that God will be the light of her home and bless her family.

Another religious ceremony which is celebrated both at the synagogue and in the home is the Passover. This festival comes in the spring, near Easter. It is a time of rejoicing and much preparation, when special foods are served and old customs followed. The Passover is held in memory of the time when the Jews were in bondage in Egypt, and the angel of death passed over their homes and spared their first-born sons. With the observance of the Passover the idea was given to the world that man has the God-given right to be free. This idea later became the cornerstone of American democracy.

The happiest holiday for Jewish children is the Hanukah, or Festival of Lights. It is held on the twenty-fifth of December, in honor of the time when the Jews won from the Syrians their right to religious freedom in 165 B. C. It is a time of great fun and merry-making as well as solemn rejoicing in Jewish homes.

It is a time of candlelight, just as Christmas is to Catholic and Protestant children.

There have been Jewish homes in Kansas City since the early days of its settlement. When Louis Hammerslough, a merchant, came by steamboat in 1858, he found other Jewish settlers living here. It is thought that these people who, too, were merchants, may have come from St. Joseph, Leavenworth, Weston, and other towns along the river when the City of Kansas began to prosper. There were enough of them here by 1864 to form a burial society and buy land for a cemetery. Until 1870, the Jewish settlers held church services only twice a year in rented halls, but by then they had organized their first congregation, B'nai Jehudah, of the Reform group. They moved into their first temple in 1875, a frame building at Sixth and Wyandotte Streets. Today there are nine congregations in Kansas City for the 25,500 Jewish people living here.

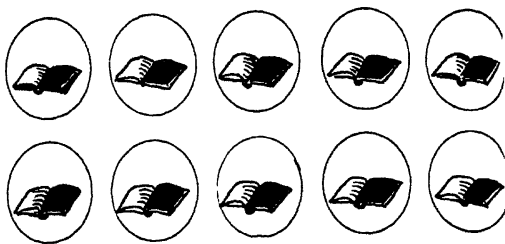
Jewish funds support Menorah Hospital, a beautifully equipped and modern institution. This hospital, which gives out the light of its healing to the community, is named for the Menorah, or candlestick, of Hebrew faith. The Appleman Home for the Aged is another Jewish welfare agency. The Alfred Benjamin Dispensary, or clinic, in the north part of the city serves the sick and needy of that entire district. A great influence on community life is the Center, where plays and lectures are presented to the public, and a library, gymnasium, and swimming pool are open to Jewish children and young people.

The Hebrew faith has made its own contribution to the life of Kansas City.

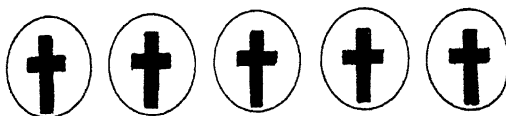
RELIGION IN COMMUNITY LIFE

When you look at the chart of church membership in Kansas City, you may be somewhat startled at the picture it presents. You may have always considered your city as one of church-going people, but you now see, after counting the circles, that less

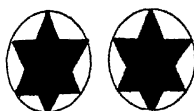
rotestants _ 100,000



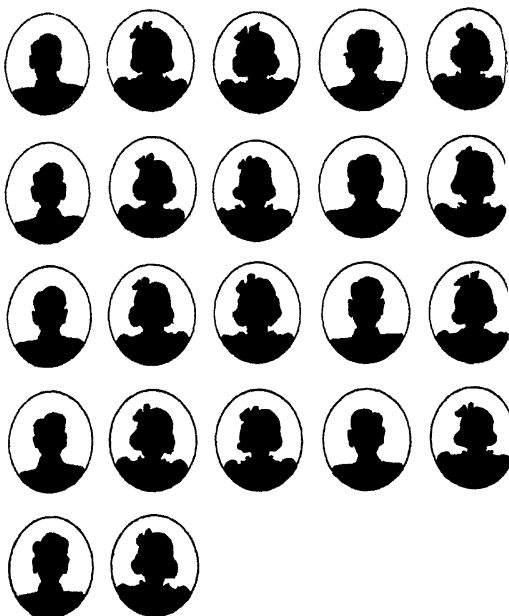
atholics _ 50,000



ebrews _ 25,000



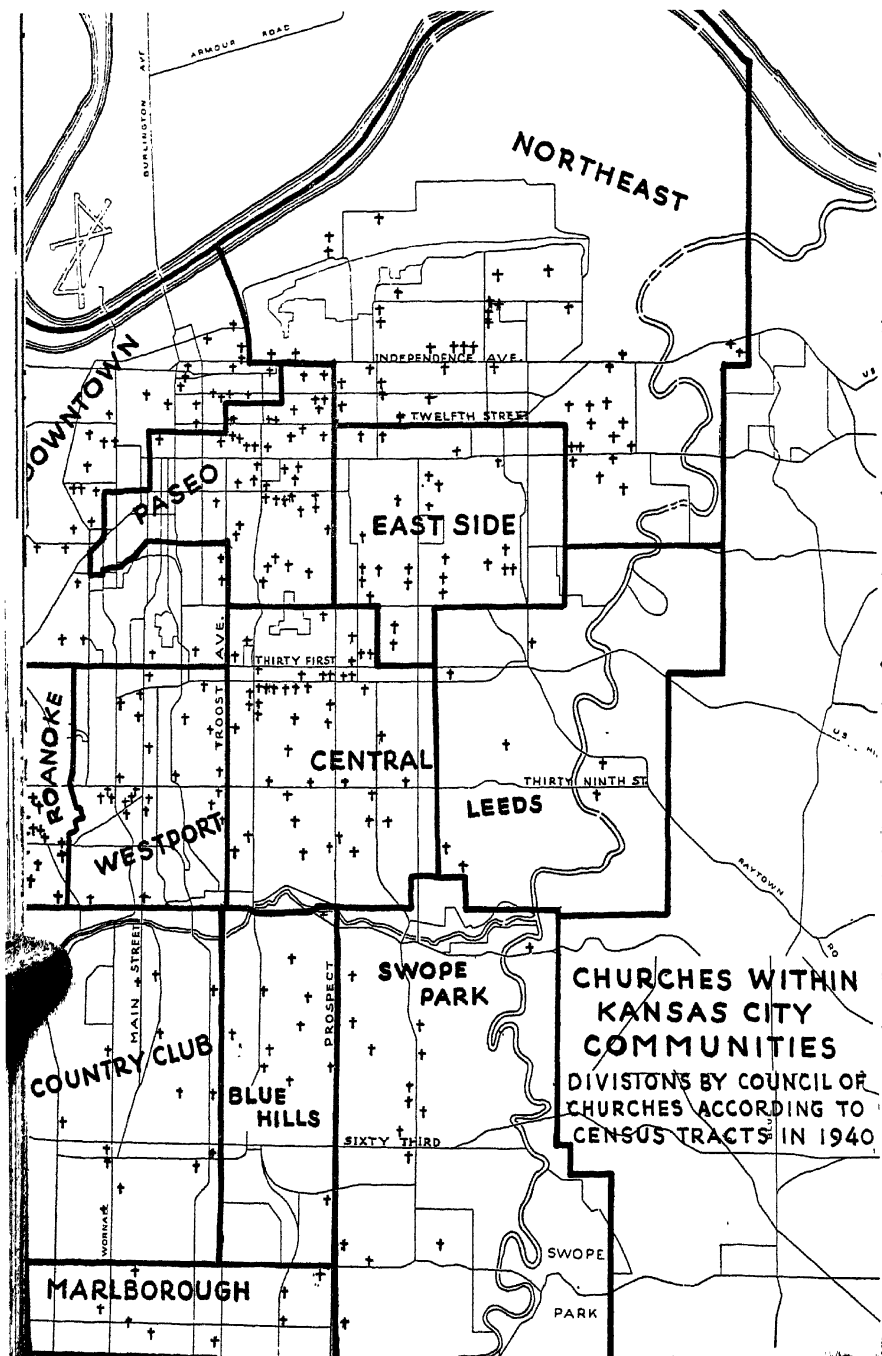
lon-church _ 224,000
members



than one half of the population is on the membership rolls of the churches of the three great faiths. The chart cannot be taken as altogether a true picture, however, for there are doubtless many people in Kansas City who are not members of a church, yet who are in sympathy with its ideals for personal conduct and right living. However, it is impossible to tell just how many there are of these, or to record them on the chart.

Although church members are not the largest group in the city, their influence has spread in a number of important ways. They are people with courage who try to stand for what is best for all. Those who follow religious teachings have patterned their lives according to high moral standards and in so doing, have influenced community life. Churches have given character training to many of the youth of the city, and have helped them to build standards for judging right from wrong. Through their church experiences, young people have strengthened their bonds of fellowship with those who believe as they do, and have gained the ability to work in harmony with increasingly larger groups of people. From their first experience in nursery school to the time when they become members of the church itself, the boys and girls of Kansas City churches have an opportunity for training in religious leadership.

At different times in Kansas City's history, both clergymen and church members have taken an active part in movements for clean politics and the overthrow of machine government. In 1918, the largest men's Bible class in the city, in the interests of obtaining a new city charter, launched a movement which grew into the Citizens League of Kansas City and Jackson County. (See Chapter 13). Churches have worked, too, for liquor control, and movie censorship. Again in 1939, when citizens became aroused at the political conditions existing in the city, religious leaders worked actively in citizen's committees and spoke publicly for non-partisan government. A city-wide association of over one hundred men's Bible classes with eight thousand members



works with the city's Department of Liquor Control to help enforce liquor laws. For a number of years, too, a church-appointed committee has reviewed and recommended current movies.

Regardless of the number of different religious faiths and denominations, throughout Kansas City's growth a spirit of friendly cooperation has existed among the different churches as they work together for the spiritual welfare of the community. Pioneer settlers remembered that as early as the 1850's, the Methodists, Baptists, Disciples of Christ, and Cumberland Presbyterians in Westport had united to build a brick meeting house where each denomination held services one Sunday a month. It stood at Central Street and Westport Avenue on land given by some people who were missionaries to the Indians. It was called the Union Church of Westport and served the community for over fifty years. When churches were first organized in the Town of Kansas, they loaned their buildings to each other for meeting houses until each could build its own. Both the Baptists and the Episcopalians first met in the Methodist church.

Throughout the years in Kansas City there have been joint Thanksgiving services held in different neighborhoods, first in one church and then in another. For many years clergymen and church members of all faiths have worked together on charity campaigns. One church has held a city-wide Easter service for sixteen years, first in Convention Hall, then in the Municipal Auditorium. All churches strive to meet the religious needs of the community, and their doors are open to any who wish to attend their services. The resounding peal of church bells all over Kansas City speaks their friendly welcome.



4. Community Patterns

SURVEYING YOUR OWN COMMUNITY

The first thing you do when you enter a place you've never been in before is to look around. If it's a home, a church, a store, a public building or a town, you look about you to get acquainted. As you do this, you see things which you like, as well as others you don't care for.

When you enter high school, you commence to look around you also. You learn to locate your classes, the auditorium, the gymnasium, the lunch room, the health center, and the office. After you have done this, you enjoy the feeling of "Knowing your way around." As you learn your way about the building, you begin to get acquainted with the students, too. You widen your circle of friends by making new ones.

Before many weeks pass, you look over the school activities and try to decide into which ones you can best fit yourself and your abilities. It may be that you are interested in a music club, an athletic team, the school newspaper, or you may want to take part in a play, a literary society, or a social club. As you adjust or orient yourself to high school life, you try hard to discover which activities will help you to get the most out of your experiences there.

At the same time that you are exploring new fields in high school, you are also broadening your community interests. Since you will one day take your place as an active citizen, you will want to know your community better in order to get the most from living within it. You will also want to understand how to become an intelligent member of this larger group. While there are many ways in which you could do this, one of the best is to make your own community survey.

In order to make a community survey, you will want to understand first what your community is. How will you know it when you see it? Does it include only your neighborhood, or your school district, or your shopping center? Or is it as broad as your entire city?

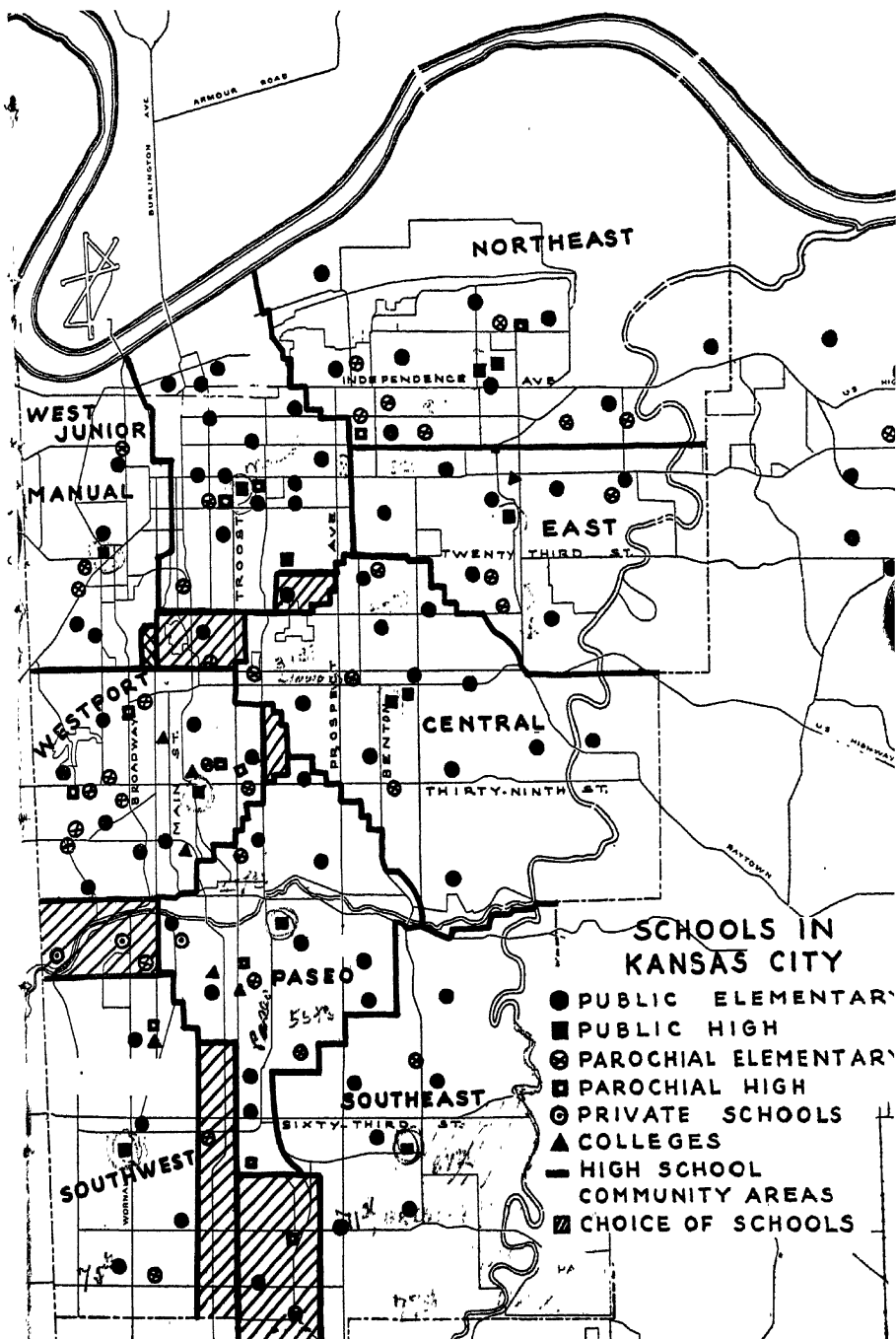
Kansas City is made up of many communities which, because of their activities and interests, fall into certain areas. Generally these community areas are high school districts made up of several elementary school districts, including a number of neighborhoods. A map of these high school districts will help you to locate your own community. It will point out to you the districts within which there are people who have somewhat similar standards of living, attend the same churches, schools and movies, use the same kinds of transportation, shop at the same stores, and live in homes of nearly the same value.

It is sometimes difficult to establish definite boundaries of a community. In Kansas City, communities include political wards, elementary school districts, and various shopping centers as well as some sections where a choice of high schools is given to residents. But none of these boundaries alone is broad enough to include what must be considered a real community. A community exists only where people of similar tastes and needs locate in certain neighborhoods and share common interests and problems.

What facts must you know about your own community in order to understand it better? Here are some questions to guide your thinking. They may suggest others to you.

QUESTIONS FOR SURVEYING YOUR COMMUNITY

1. What are its boundaries?
2. Does it have a name? If so, how did it get it?
3. When and how did it start?
4. What is its population?
5. From what countries did the grandparents of people within it come?
6. How much has it grown or decreased in the last twenty years?
7. What are its leading industries?



8. Are there spots of historical interest within it? Have any events of historical significance taken place there?
9. Are there any bodies of water within its boundaries?
10. How many schools are within the area?
11. How many churches are there and of what faith?
12. Does it contain public playgrounds and playfields? If so, where? A library? Where?
13. What other recreational and cultural advantages are provided at public expense?
14. Is there any way of earning a living in which a high per cent of its population is engaged?
15. How many stores, business houses, or banks are there?
16. Is there a fire or police station, or hospital? If so, where?
17. Are there any beauty spots? Ugly or unsightly spots?
18. What are its sources of food? Are there any food regulations?
19. What organized groups are there? (Business, political, religious, fraternal, social, athletic.)
20. What kinds of transportation serve the community? Are they adequate? Are there any traffic problems?
21. How many movies are there? What is their weekly attendance?
22. What are the welfare agencies serving it?
23. Is its population mobile or stable?
24. Is it made up of single family houses, apartments, or multiple dwellings? Is it overcrowded?
25. Does it have any problems? Of what kind?

Some of the above questions cover broad topics, and you may want to explore them in more detail. To do this, you will find these additional suggestions helpful.

1. Houses

- a. Are they safe and sound?
- b. Are they neat and in good repair?
- c. Are there rooms enough?

- d. Are the rooms large enough?
- e. Are there garages for every car?

2. Yards

- a. Are they landscaped and planted?
- b. Are they graded for drainage?
- c. Are they clean and well kept?
- d. Are there enough places to play?
- e. Are they protected?
- f. Are nearby vacant lots clean?

3. Schools

- a. Are they fire-proof?
- b. Are they up-to-date and in good condition?
- c. Are they well-equipped and maintained?
- d. Are they over-crowded?
- e. Are they safe from traffic?
- f. Are they next to a playfield?

4. Streets

- a. Are they quiet and safe?
- b. Are they direct and continuous thoroughfares?
- c. Are they wide enough for traffic?
- d. Are the traffic loads well controlled?
- e. Are they clean and in good repair?
- f. Are they landscaped?
- g. Are they properly lighted?
- h. Are they free of billboards?
- i. Are the alleys free from trash and litter?

5. Shops and business places

- a. Are there enough for local needs?
- b. Are they attractive and pleasant?
- c. Are there adequate parking spaces?
- d. Are they conveniently located?
- e. Are they clean and well lighted?
- f. Are there many empty buildings?

6. Recreation
 - a. Is it set up as part of a city-wide program?
 - b. Is it under the direction of trained leaders?
 - c. Is it planned for all age groups?
7. Services and utilities
 - a. Is there an adequate police force?
 - b. Is there regular garbage collection?
 - c. Is there satisfactory fire protection?
 - d. Is there a good sewage system with enough storm sewers?
 - e. Is there convenient transportation?
 - f. Is there sufficient water supply?
 - g. Is there sufficient gas pressure?
8. Protective laws
 - a. Are there fire protection laws?
 - b. Are there health protection laws?
 - c. Are there regulations of unnecessary noises?
 - d. Are pests and other nuisances controlled?
9. Zoning
 - a. Are neighborhoods in the community under zoning regulations?
 - b. Are the stores centered in one district?
 - c. Are the apartment houses the same distance from the street as the single dwellings?
 - d. Are the industries in one location or scattered throughout the community?
 - e. Are the restrictions for a long or short period?
 - f. Are homes built to meet the neighborhood price range?
10. Youth Welfare
 - a. Are the pool halls supervised?
 - b. Are the child labor laws enforced?
 - c. Are there bowling alley inspections?
 - d. Are the picture shows inspected and films censored?
 - e. Are places selling liquor controlled?
 - f. Are children protected from neglect?

g. Are there any places of correction?

11. Opportunities

a. Are there varied youth activities?

b. Are there active civic groups?

c. Are there broad church activities and active church leadership?

d. Are there enough Campfire and Scout organizations?

e. Are there youth and community councils?

f. Are you helping to improve your neighborhood?

g. Are you proud of it?

h. Are you using the cultural facilities of the city?

(1) Art Galleries and Museum?

(2) Auditoriums, Theatres, Concerts?

(3) Libraries?

12. Parks and Playgrounds

a. Are they within walking distance of your home?

b. Are they large enough for groups of different ages to enjoy them?

c. Are they safe from traffic?

d. Are they attractively planted?

e. Are they clean and well maintained?

f. Are they provided with play equipment for different ages?

g. Are they supervised by competent people?

h. Are they provided with shelters?

i. Are they planned for family outings?

j. Are you helping to keep them clean?

k. Are parks in your community the result of special tax assessments?

Since making a community survey is probably a new experience, you will no doubt want some suggestions for conducting one. You may want to start with a neighborhood canvass. Observe the people living there as well as the stores and businesses. As you broaden your study to include your entire community, talk

with some of the older residents who have lived there long enough to watch the changes which have taken place within it. Interview parents, teachers, doctors, and merchants in the community. Talk with a minister, a member of an improvement association, or a politician, for these people, because of their experiences, may give you some of the information you are seeking.

By inviting adults who are well-informed and interested in the community to visit your civics classes, you may find the answers to many questions which puzzle you. Members of city departments such as the Police, Health, Planning, Welfare Departments and others, will cooperate by aiding you in your survey. There are federal government agencies, too, where valuable information can be secured upon request, for each has its own publications. Among these agencies are the Departments of Agriculture, Justice, Commerce, Labor, and the Social Security Board.

Through a study of your city's history, you can see what part your local community played in the development of the entire city. By reading Chamber of Commerce bulletins, city reports, and maps, you can gain a better understanding of your own community's relationship to the others which go to make up Kansas City.

The Kansas City Star and the files of a former newspaper, the *Journal Post*, are sources of valuable information concerning your community and its activities and problems. Neighborhood newspapers, sponsored by improvement associations, give further information. Trade journals, if they feature a business which is carried on within your community, are additional sources when weighed carefully. If the librarian in your branch or at the main library knows that you are making a survey, she will find helpful materials for you. The Kansas City Museum and the Native Sons have letters, documents, pictures, and various collections which can provide background and color for your study.

When detailed information concerning the population of

your community is needed, use the *16th Census of the United States for 1940. Population and Housing Statistics for Census Tracts—Kansas City, Mo.* You will need to locate the bounds of your particular community, and find the numbers of the census tracts which it includes. Figures from the census will prove most helpful to you. An interview with a realtor may furnish you the story of the development of your community from the time when it was first platted to its present-day improvements.

When you set out to explore your community, be sure to do it in the spirit of adventure. While you may not be Columbus sailing an unknown sea, or Daniel Boone blazing a trail through the wilderness, or a Forty-Niner seeking gold in California, you are at least searching for treasure around you. You have doubtless seen most of the buildings, streets, and stores of your community many times, but you may have taken them all so much for granted that you looked at them with unseeing eyes. By undertaking a detailed survey of this same area, you will find yourself making new discoveries each day.

To find out "what makes the wheels go round" is always fun. At the same time that you are making this study, you will also be gaining an understanding of the people with whom you live and an appreciation of the contributions they make to your own life. The owner of the fruit stand will become more than the man who serves you when you talk with him about his parents who left Italy and found a new life in Kansas City. The druggist whose grandfather was the first physician in your community may give you a new appreciation of the hardships of pioneer life. The elderly woman whose father once owned the land in old Westport on which your school stands today may, in her reminiscences, make the past live again for you and help you to understand the present.

While you are conducting a survey of your own community, you are helping yourself to be able to get the most out of living within it. You may also come to understand its needs and to help

in solving some of its problems. Your community's needs are your needs, too. When they are met, you benefit. Your community's problems are also your problems and gathering facts about them will increase your understanding.

When you have finished your survey, you will have gained a knowledge of the pattern of community living which is common to almost every area in Kansas City.

If you are wondering why you, as a Freshman in high school, should be concerned about the problems of your community, remember that you are a future adult citizen. As a voter, a taxpayer, an employer or an employee, an office holder, a parent, a producer, or a consumer, you will need to be an intelligent, well-informed individual. Community study in a civics class gives you a gradual approach to citizenship. It helps you to understand your rights and privileges as a person living in a community, while you are becoming more aware of your duties and responsibilities as well. These include your having enough pride to keep your homes attractive and the city streets clean. Your sense of duty to your community means, too, that you are willing to cooperate with all city officials and to obey the laws. You will also want to be loyal to your neighbors and to live peaceably among them. You will be eager to take part in community activities, and to work to make your community one in which you are glad to live.

Through your own survey and your study of civics, you begin to realize that government in community living is of the people and by the people, as well as for the people.

BLUE-PRINTING COMMUNITY PATTERNS

Just as you have gathered facts about your own community in order to gain an understanding of it, experts also study the patterns of city life as a whole in order that government may be carried on more efficiently.

On the following pages are charts showing conditions which influence people's lives in Kansas City.

WIDENING YOUR COMMUNITY RANGE

Your first horizons were limited by the walls of your home. These were later pushed out to include a school, a church, and a community. As you grow older, they will include an entire city. There are advantages which come from thus widening your range of interest. You would not want to do all your shopping in a single business district, nor to find your recreation only at a neighborhood movie theater. You would want to visit museums, art galleries, parks, or points of local interest which might not be located in your own community. By including the whole of Kansas City in the experiences of your life, you are giving yourself a wider choice of friends, better opportunities for recreation, more cultural advantages, and a broader chance for exchanging ideas and sharing interests.

At the same time that you are becoming acquainted with Kansas City as a whole, you are learning about all the different communities within it. You have an opportunity to see how they are similar to or different from your own. While no two communities are exactly alike, it is soon possible to see that they have certain characteristics in common. Within their boundaries, people work, worship, learn, play, vote, and receive the protection which comes from the closeness of neighborhood living. Because of this very closeness, however, people have to curb their actions in order not to interfere with the rights of others.

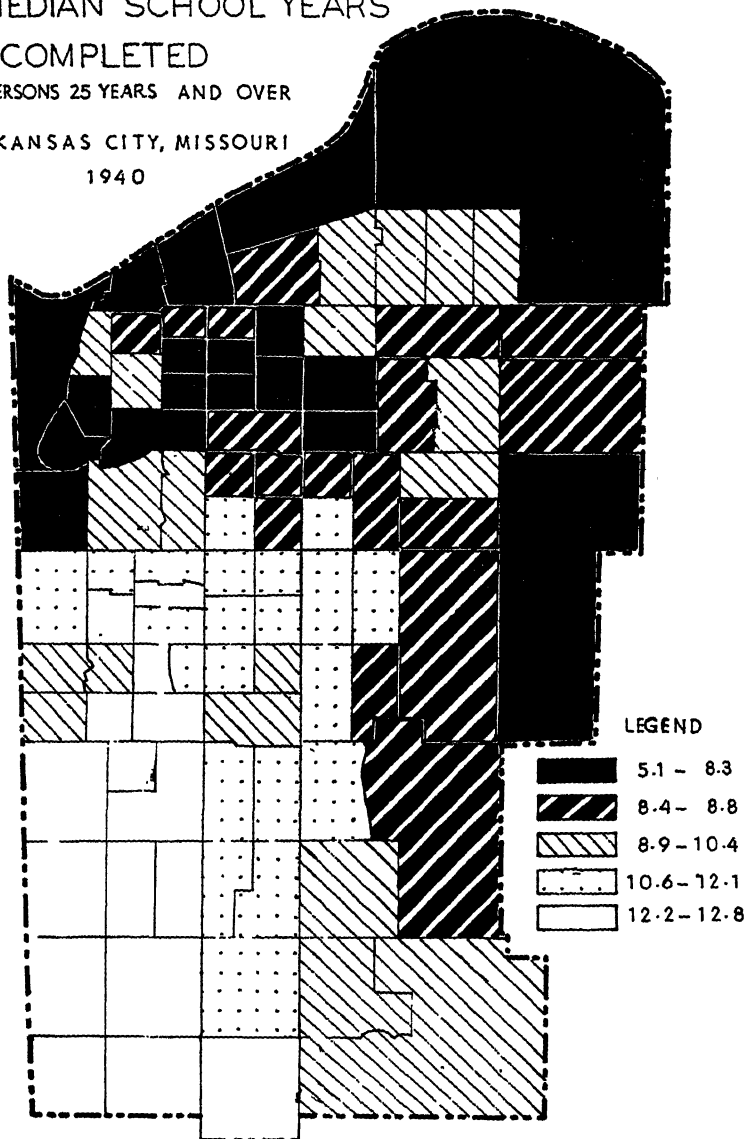
Sometimes you may find, too, that there are certain dangers which are common to nearly all communities. Often jealousies arise between groups within a single community or between similar groups in different communities. Perhaps two groups are competing for the location of a factory, an airpark, or a stadium, and both may be unwilling to recognize which site would be best for the city as a whole. Disputes and conflicting opinions over zoning for business, location of trafficways, or the installation of traffic lights often arise within community groups. Blind loyalty to "my school," "my church," or "my neighborhood" may lead

MEDIAN SCHOOL YEARS COMPLETED

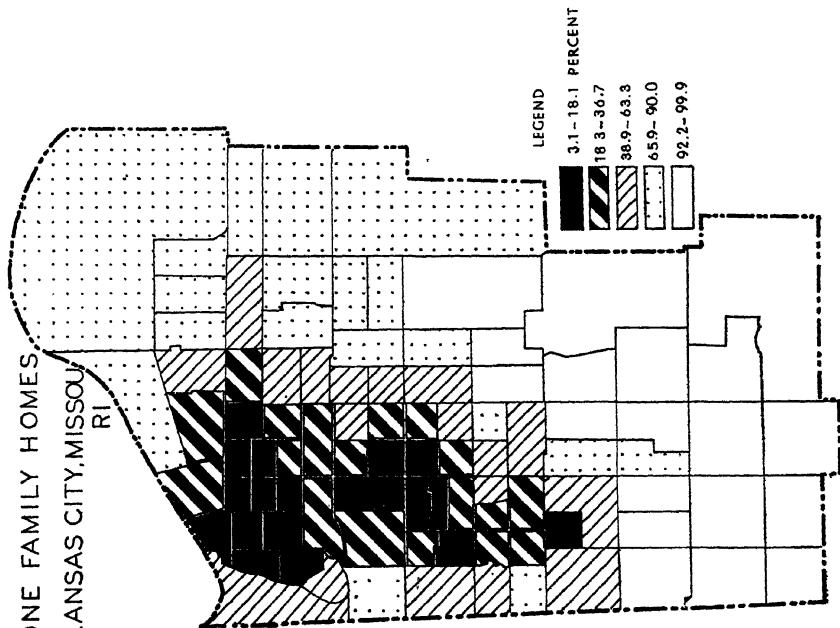
PERSONS 25 YEARS AND OVER

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

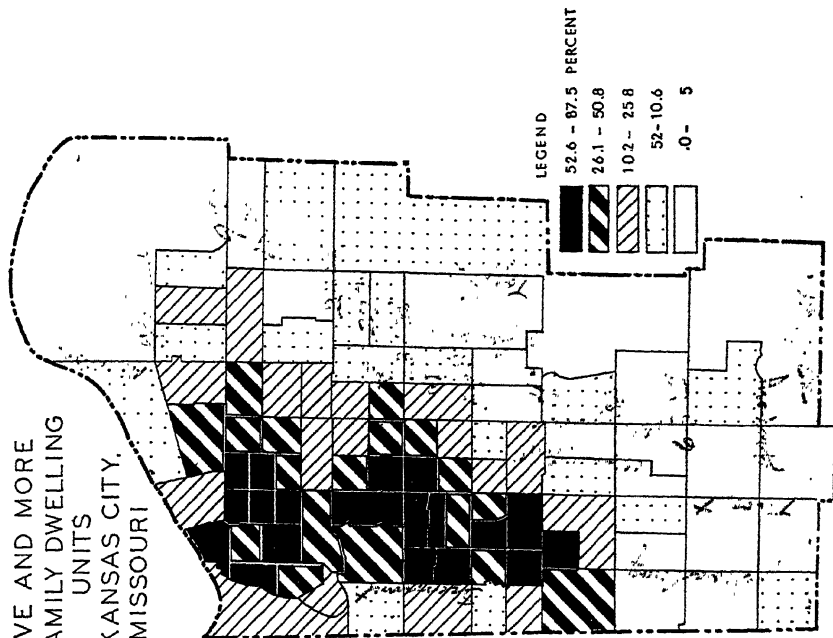
1940

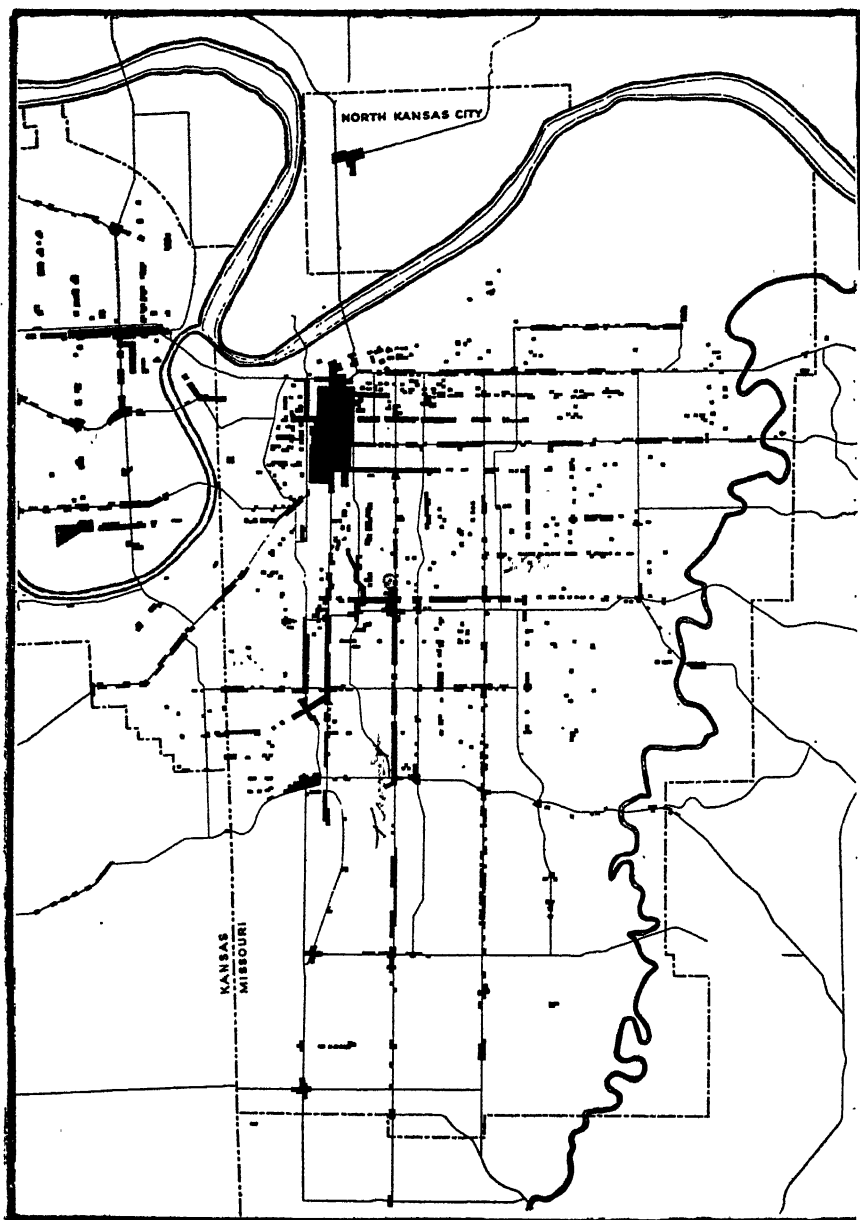


ONE FAMILY HOMES,
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

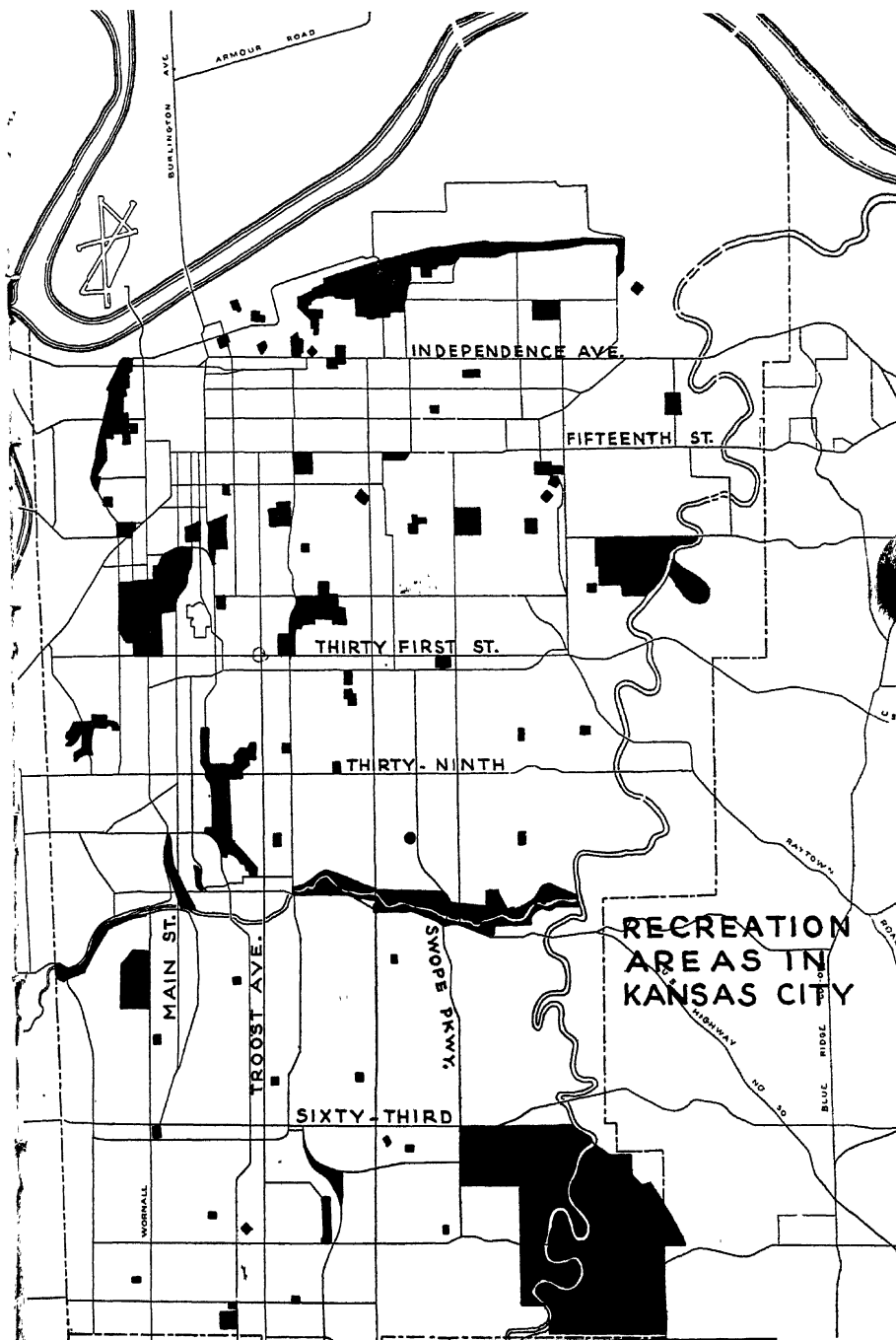


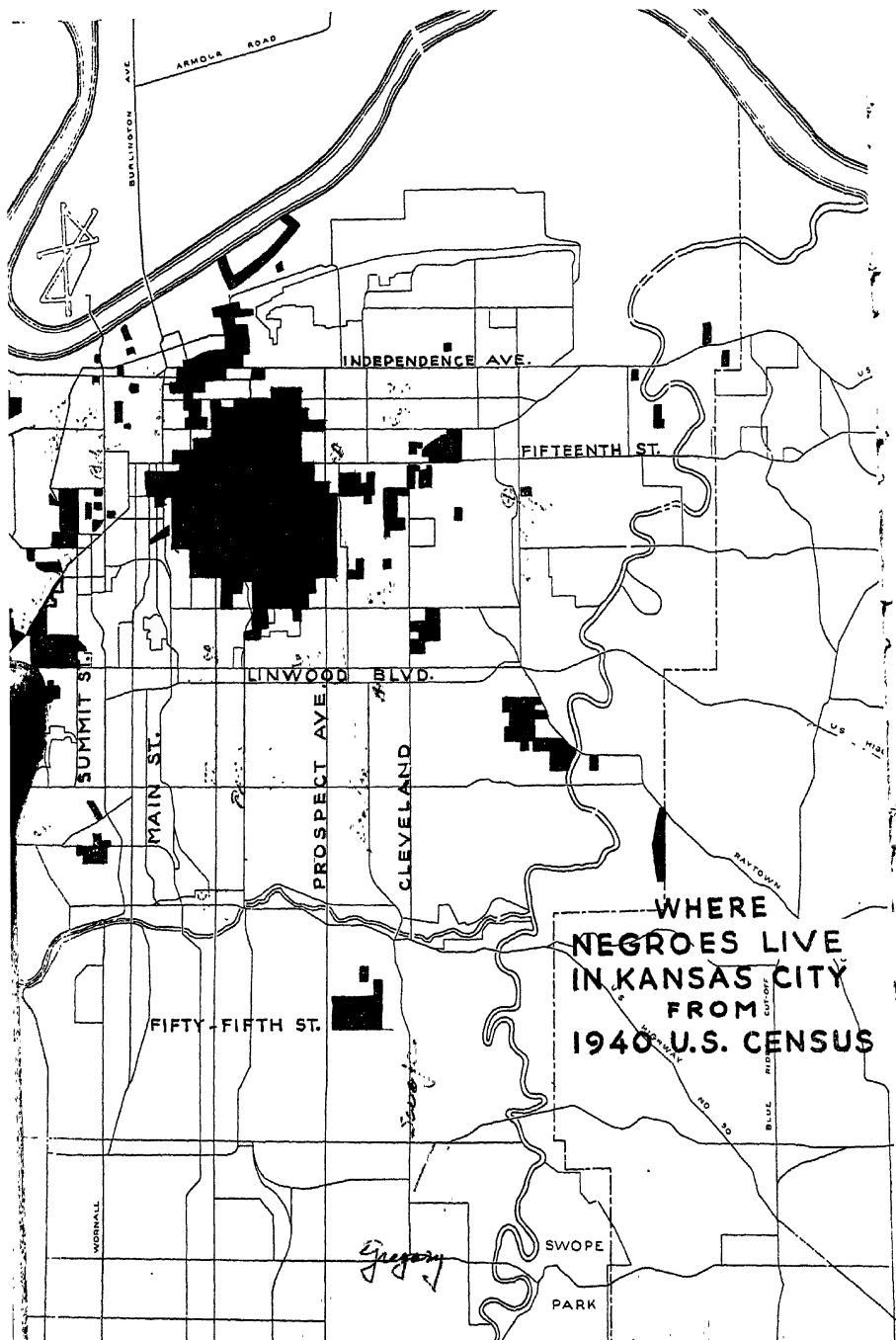
FIVE AND MORE
FAMILY DWELLING
UNITS
KANSAS CITY,
MISSOURI





Commercial areas





to an unwillingness to see the point of view or the problems of others. This lack of tolerance can often block the progress of the whole community.

By realizing that the word "community" means "in common," each community member is more likely to be willing to consider the good of all. When he does this, he becomes an ideal citizen in a democratic community.

A CITY'S SPIRIT

Throughout the course of its history, Kansas City has had many such "ideal citizens"—men who planned wisely for its progress. From the time when the city was only a sprawling frontier town along the waterfront, until today, when it stands as a great gateway to the West, Kansas Citians have shown a fine civic spirit. This spirit has characterized their business efforts, their cultural interests, and their plans for the development of a progressive city. This spirit is a vital part of our community pattern today, and is described in a poem written by a Kansas Citian (Albert E. Shirling, naturalist, teacher, writer).

Kansas City—The Gate to the West

Where prairie met woodland and sunshine met shadow,
where buffalo mingled with bear;
Where daisies and sunflowers were neighbors to maples
and violets perfumed the air;
Where copse-wood of hazel joined hands with the wild
rose,
And sheltered the cardinal's nest,
Here Frenchman and trader met Indian and hunter,
And camped at the Gate to the West.

Where dugout and flatboat met schooner and horseman
Who stopped, their supplies to renew;
Where Kaw and Missouri united their flood plains,
Where bluffs gave unparalleled view

Of valley and river, of color and cloud land
In slumbering shadows of rest;
Here hut became warehouse, and camp became village
That grew at the Gate to the West.

Then hopes and ambitions strove hard with endurance,
And workers toiled day after day
To smooth out a passage through bluffs and through
forest,

For pioneers coming this way.
They came, and they conquered through toil and priva-
tion—

A city arose from the quest
For freedom, for progress, for wealth, and adventure—
Arose at the Gate of the West.

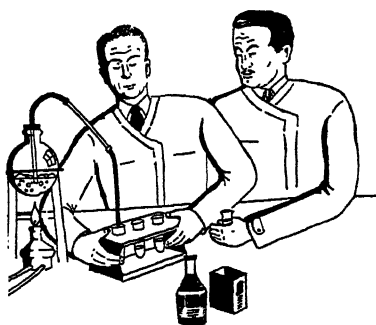
A wonderful city, with great buildings towering
Where wild, wooded hills used to stand;
A prosperous city with network of trade routes
Connecting with every land;
A beautiful city, whose drives are like dreamland,
And homes a glad vision of rest.
Ah, such is our city, beloved, fair city,
That lives at the Gate of the West.

Supreme is the spirit that rules o'er this city,
Directing the trend of its mart,—
A spirit that calls for the highest endeavor
In science, religion, and art;
The spirit of conquest embodied in kindness,
And love that endures every test.
Such spirit now throbs in this Heart of the Nation,
And opens the Gate to the West.



Part 2 What Your Community Does for You

- 5. Clean, Hale, and Hearty
- 6. Playing Safe
- 7. In the Name of the Law
- 8. For the General Welfare
- 9. A Roof Over Your Head



**5. Clean,
Hale, and
Hearty**

AMBULANCE ON CALL

The brakes on the heavy oil truck screeched as its driver made a desperate swerve to avoid hitting the oncoming sedan. But the truck was completely out of control. It skidded on the icy pavement. The impact of the two cars, as they crashed together, was deafening. Fragments of shattered glass shot out in all directions and metal fenders crumpled as if they were cardboard. The passengers in the sedan screamed and cried for help. Passers-by crowded near the scene of the accident to offer aid.

"Quick! Call the ambulance!" shouted one.

"Where do I call?" cried another.

"Call Harrison 8060!" It was the calm voice of a traffic officer which answered. He had just driven up in the Safety Patrol car and immediately took charge of the situation.

In a moment, a woman from a nearby house rushed out with some blankets which the traffic officer had asked her to get.

"It's best not to move these two," he said. "They seem pretty badly hurt. We'll wait for the ambulance."

As the officer bent to examine the injuries of the truck driver, the crowd heard the wail of a siren. Soon the ambulance had cleared a path through the traffic, and stopped near the spot where the two cars had crashed. The crowd drew back to let the driver and his helper pass through to the injured.

The men carefully examined the driver of the truck and the other victims of the accident. "Two of these need to come to the hospital with us," one said to the officer. "The others can go on home."

The crowd watched the hospital attendants lift the victims onto stretchers and carefully place them inside the waiting ambulance. Then the traffic officer closed the door, and turned to help the others who were not so seriously injured. Through the crowd, the ambulance siren cleared a way as the car sped toward General Hospital.



First aid at the scene of an accident

To the drivers of the ambulance, answering this call was part of a routine which kept them rushing from one section of the city to another. It meant being on call for any emergency, either to give first aid to the injured or to bring a very ill patient to the hospital.

The hospital attendants and their ambulances are part of the health services which Kansas City provides for any who need them. Well-equipped ambulances are sent out to the scene of any emergency or to a home where there is severe illness. The city ambulances, painted white and marked with a red cross, are a familiar sight on the streets of Kansas City.

KANSAS CITY'S HEALTH CHART

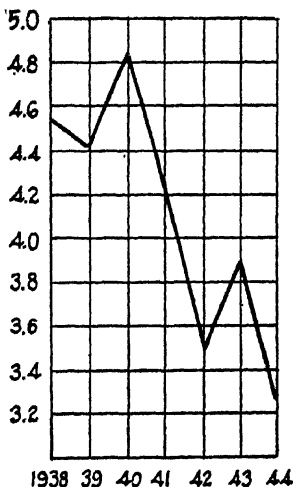
Many surveys have been made recently of the health of our nation, and it is startling to find that the facts point to one con-

clusion—that most communities have far from ideal health conditions. Most of them have too much illness. Most of them do not have enough nurses or physicians. And most of them do not provide adequate health education for children or adults.

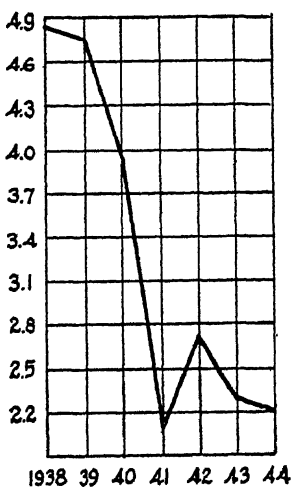
When an average of six million persons in the nation are ill each day, and the cost of illness for one year is about ten billion dollars, there is proof that we have too much illness. When there are hundreds of counties without public health nurses or a general hospital, and when one third of our population lacks adequate medical service, you can be sure that health services are far from what they should be. And when there are very few city schools with health supervisors and only one third of the states with health supervision in their departments of education, it is further proof that health education needs to be improved.

If these conditions are true of the nation, are they also true of Kansas City? The health chart of any person gives a fairly complete record of the state of his health, including his temperature, respiration, pulse rate, and general condition. When the

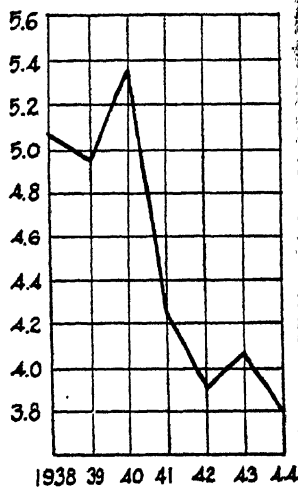
Infant Mortality
(per 100 live births).



Maternal Mortality
(per 100 live births).



Tuberculosis Mortality
(per 10,000 population).





A class in child care

health chart of Kansas City is made, it shows whether it is a healthy city in which to live, by telling such things as how many infants die the first year of their lives, how many mothers die at the birth of a child, and whether there is any disease which is peculiar to this area, as a result of the climate of Kansas City or of the industries located here.

Kansas City's health chart shows that there are no diseases, such as malaria, tuberculosis, or goiter which are typical of this region. This is one reason why Kansas City may be considered a healthy city. Since it has a pure water supply, its citizens are not subject to typhoid, dysentery, or diseases which are contracted from impure water. Because the milk and food supply of the city is carefully inspected, there is little or no disease from these sources. And since Kansas City is not primarily an industrial city, it has few occupational diseases, such as those which are common to stone cutters, miners, or workers in steel mills and blast furnaces. The rate of infant mortality, or the death of young babies, is low in Kansas City, as is the death rate for mothers. The climate of Kansas City, considered moderate, is one which causes few deaths from either extreme heat or bitter

cold. All of these conditions help to form Kansas City's health chart.

Both doctors and nurses are deeply interested in keeping the health record of our city good. Over seven hundred doctors of medicine and surgeons work many long hours each day, keeping diseases from spreading and caring for the ill or injured. There is approximately one doctor to every five hundred people in Kansas City, a figure slightly better than the national average. More than 1,300 registered nurses are on duty day or night in hospitals, private homes, or in public health service. While Kansas City may be considered a healthful city in which to live, yet doctors feel that its health chart can be improved through public education and cooperation. People living here must be constantly on the watch to keep the favorable conditions already present, as well as to set even higher standards for the community's health.

A PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

Because today a community feels responsible for the health of its citizens, one of the chief departments of government in Kansas City is the Department of Health. Its work touches the lives of the average citizen perhaps more than that of any other department. Its problems are similar to those of other large cities—(1) sanitation and disposal of waste, (2) food inspection, (3) provision of a pure water supply, (4) protection from communicable diseases, (5) health education, and (6) operation of municipal hospitals. Over two million dollars are spent in a year by the Department of Health to protect the health of Kansas Citizens, at an average cost to each citizen of about \$4.35.

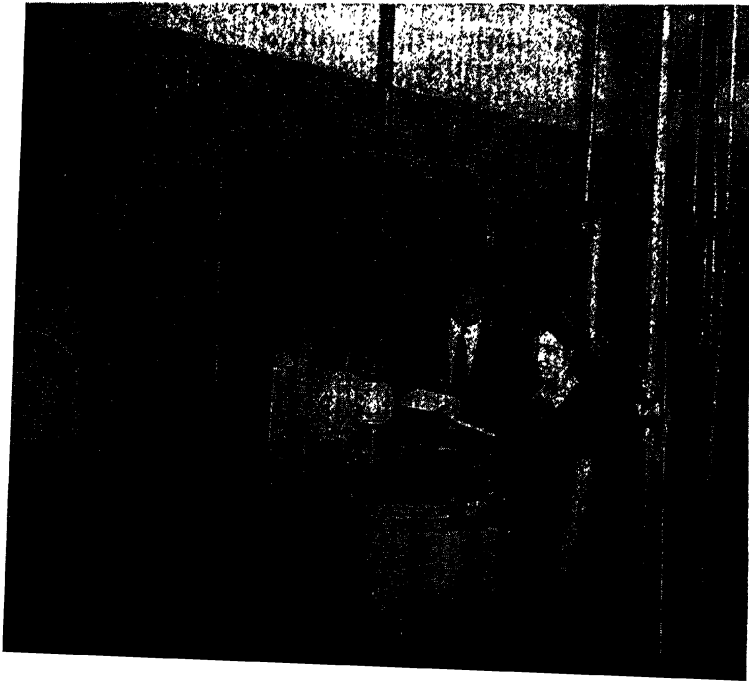
In order to insure sanitary living conditions throughout the city, the Department of Health has a Division of Sanitation and Inspection. It is concerned with keeping the environment of Kansas City healthful and in eliminating conditions which produce disease. To do this, the city is divided into districts with inspectors assigned to each. They check on vacant lots and

trash dumps. They also inspect houses for defective plumbing or imperfect sewage disposal. The proper care of garbage, before it is collected, is another of their problems, as well as the prevention of public nuisances, such as the keeping of animals or poultry in crowded city neighborhoods.

The Division of Sanitation and Inspection has many other duties. One of these is to inspect all dairy farms supplying milk to Kansas City, as well as dairies, creameries, and ice cream plants. About 25,000 cows on 1,600 farms are inspected every few months. They produce the enormous milk supply which is used in Kansas City daily.

All restaurants, hotels, cafes, and lunch counters must have not only an inspection of the food they serve and the kitchens where it is prepared, but also have health examinations for their employees who handle food. In order to teach employees sani-

Sanitary inspection of a dairy



Meat inspection
in a packing
plant



tary ways to handle food, the effect of flies, roaches, and rodents as carriers of disease, as well as the causes of food poisoning, Food Handlers Institutes are conducted by the Department of Health. Through seeing films and slides and hearing lectures in various sections of the city, the 1,600 restaurant owners of the city and their employees may learn how to observe the standards of a code of food sanitation recommended by the United States Public Health Service. This program of education is extremely necessary, for once as many as 5,000 violations of the laws governing the handling of food had to be corrected in a year's time.

The inspection of meat is another concern of this division. Animals prepared by packing houses in Missouri for market in Kansas City must be inspected before and after slaughtering. In cases where a number of people suffer from food poisoning, it is the duty of this division of the Department of Health to make an investigation. Reports on dogs suspected of having rabies are made to this department, and dog bites are also reported to



Testing air
for dust in
an industrial
plant

the police. Inspections for rats, roaches, bedbugs, and lice are made in theaters, restaurants, and other public buildings. Swimming pools, too, are checked regularly, as are barber and beauty shops.

Health conditions in industrial plants may be tested by an engineer on the staff of the Department of Health. He checks materials or manufacturing processes to find where health hazards start. He studies the effect of materials which prove poisonous to workers, accidents due to improper ventilation or lighting, and then recommends correction to plant managers.

The Department of Health is also concerned with pure water, for it, too, is vitally important to a city's health. The water supplying Kansas City is taken from the Missouri River about three miles north of the city. One hundred million gallons each day pass through the water works in North Kansas City to be treated, filtered, and softened. Then the water is pumped through

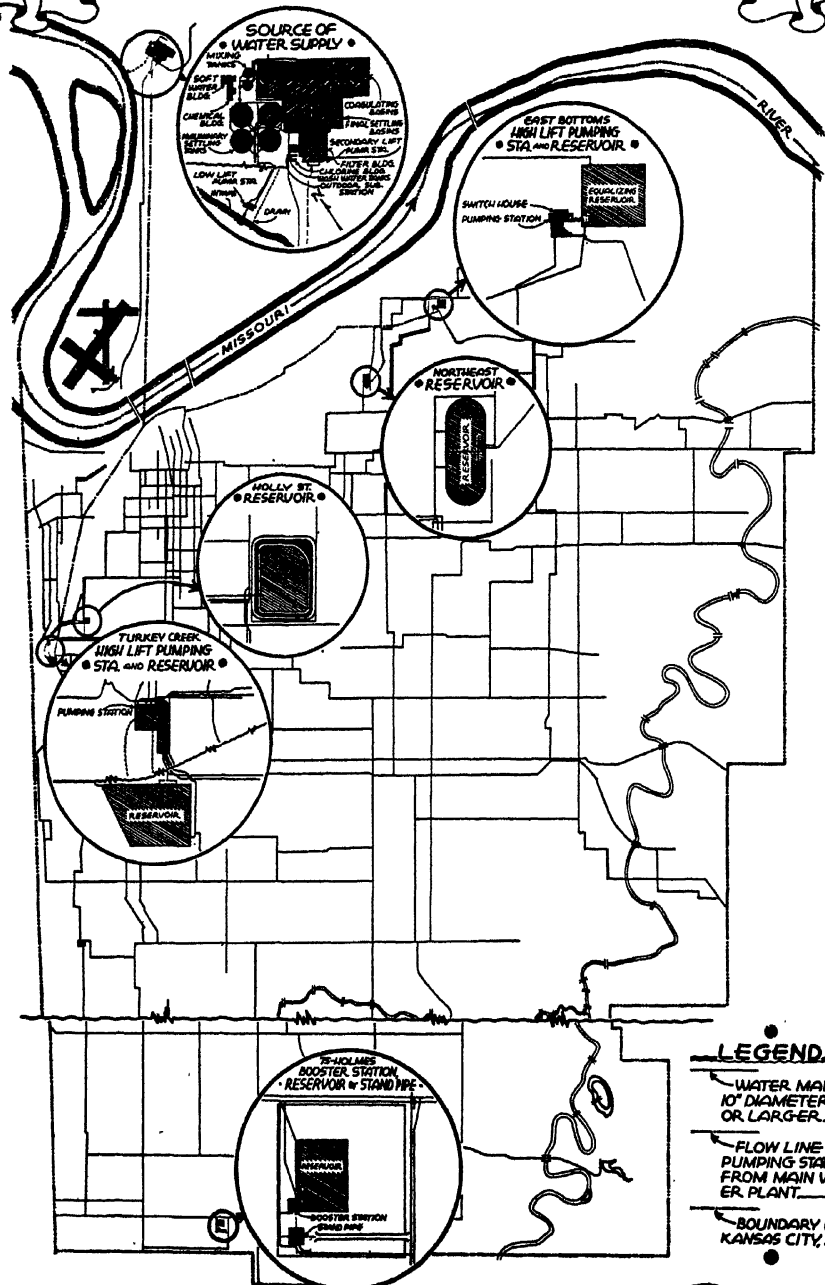
a tunnel under the river to five distribution stations. From these it is piped through 874 miles of water mains to consumers throughout the city.

People of Kansas City are fortunate to have a water supply of good quality provided for them at reasonable rates. Pure, healthful water costs the consumer only five cents a ton. It is surprising to discover that even at this low rate a \$27,000,000 water system is entirely self supporting. Although the Water Department is a part of the city government, it is in no way dependent upon tax funds. Meters are installed in homes and public buildings to measure the amount of water flowing through them, and from their readings, the cost to the consumer is figured.

While the Water Department is responsible for giving the city pure water, the Department of Health keeps a careful check on its bacterial count, for impure water is the source of many diseases. The Missouri River, a broad waterway often swollen by floods, carries with it much debris as it sweeps along the lowlands surrounding Kansas City. Before its waters are fit for public use, they must be chemically treated and scientifically checked.

One of the chief aims of the Department of Health is to control the spread of communicable diseases. The most common of these are measles, scarlet fever, chicken pox, whooping cough, and mumps. When you or your parents discover that you have the symptoms of any of these diseases, the rules of the Department of Health state that you must stay home from school and isolate yourself as much as possible from the rest of your family. After your doctor has been called and diagnosed your case, he is required by law to report it to the Division of Communicable Diseases in the Department of Health. If the disease is scarlet fever, encephalitis (sleeping sickness), poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis), epidemic meningitis, smallpox, or diphtheria and the patient is being cared for at home, the Department of Health placards your house.

• Water Supply System • Kansas City, Mo. •



The after-effects of contagious diseases are often felt throughout a lifetime. For this reason both you and your community must recognize their symptoms in the earliest stages and check their spread. Public schools do everything possible to protect the children attending them and teachers are constantly on the alert to prevent the spread of any epidemic. A Contagion Guide has been published for them which includes descriptions of many diseases. The five most communicable are shown on a sample chart. You, too, can be on the lookout for disease danger signals by studying the chart. You will be protecting not only yourself, but also the health of your community.

To aid in the control of diphtheria and smallpox, the Department of Health will furnish the use of its laboratory or vaccines for those needing them. Toxoid for vaccinating against diphtheria is also provided. Each spring there is a city-wide health drive to protect children against this dread disease.

It is the chief responsibility of the Director of the Department of Health to protect and preserve the public health. In Kansas City he is a licensed physician, a specialist in public health, is appointed by the city manager, and reports to him. He must enforce the state health laws and make rules to govern the health of the city. Under the city charter he has the power to close schools, theaters, swimming pools, or any public gathering during an epidemic. Under his direction are the divisions of Sanitation, Vital Statistics, Child Health and Education, and the General Hospitals and their laboratories.

Today three city-owned General Hospitals serve Kansas City: General Hospital Number One with 500 beds for white patients, General Hospital Number Two with 250 beds for Negro patients, and the 250-bed Tuberculosis Hospital at Leeds. Staff doctors give their time and services free of charge. Nurses and internes receive training in all of these hospitals. Well-equipped laboratories serve the hospitals as well as the needs of the Department of Health.

Contagion Guide for Teachers. Approved by the City Health Department and the School Medical Advisory Committee of the Jackson County Medical Society.

Most of the communicable diseases are spread by contact with the secretions from the nose and throat of infected persons.

City Health Department Rules.

I. Diseases (Incubation period)	II. Symptoms	III. Teachers' Procedure	IV. Re-admission to School (Patient)	Placard
Measles 10-14 days	Resembles the common cold plus fever and "blochy" pale red eruptions.	Isolate child. Notify nurse. If she is not in building, notify parent. Watch for signs of illness in others.	7-14 days. Written permit not required.	No
Scarlet fever (Scarletina) 1-7 days	Sudden onset. Nausea, fever, sore throat. Fine pin point scarlet rash. Mild case resembles prickly heat.	Proceed with isolation. Check for brothers or sisters and other contacts.	21-days—when all discharges have ceased. Written permit required.	Yes
Chicken pox 10-20 days	Fever, bodily discomfort, watery blisters developing from popples.	Isolate child. Notify nurse. If she is not in building, notify parent. Watch for signs of illness in others.	14 days and until lesions are dried up. Written permit not required.	No
Whooping Cough 7-14 days	Early symptoms resemble a cold. Difficult to recognize unless duration of cough is 3 weeks or longer, or occurs in whoops becoming more severe for 4 or 5 weeks. Often vomiting.	Discuss with school nurse. Early stage very contagious. Find out how many have had whooping cough. Isolate child.	Written permit not required. 6 weeks from onset.	No
Mumps 14-17 days	Pain and swelling about the angle of the jaw and in front of ear. Fever.	Isolate child. Notify nurse. If she is not in building, notify parent. Be alert for signs of illness in others.	14 days and until no swelling.	No

Children having had disease may continue school. Others may return to school 14 days from last exposure if living in another residence.

Children having had disease may continue school. Others may stay 10 days then exclude for ten days.

Public Health Agencies of Government

GOVERNMENT	AGENCY	WORK OF AGENCY
National	Public Health Service under Federal Security Agency	Educational bulletins Research on causes and statistics of disease Inspection of immigrants Child hygiene Sanitation and control of rivers
	Bureau of Animal Husbandry under Department of Agriculture	Care of animals
	Inter-state Commerce Commission	Control of moving foods between states
	Food and Drug Administration	Inspection of drugs and canned foods
	Immigration Bureau	Inspection of passengers and crews on ships from foreign countries
	Health Department or Board of Health	Vital statistics records Building inspection Authority to close schools, theatres, other public places when necessary to stop an epidemic
State	Clinics	Discovery and treatment of diseases Immunization against preventable diseases Enforcement of state health laws Education in control and prevention of disease Child hygiene
	Eleemosynary Department	Maintenance of institutions for mentally and physically handicapped a. Missouri School for Blind at St. Louis b. School for the Deaf at Fulton c. Hospitals for the insane at St. Joseph, Farmington, Fulton, and Nevada d. School for the feeble minded at Marshall e. Tuberculosis hospital at Mt. Vernon f. Hospital for cancer control at Columbia
County	Coroner	Investigation of sudden and mysterious death
City	Health Department	Bureau of Vital Statistics Inspection of food, milk, and meat Enforcement of state health laws Maintenance of clinics Maintenance of hospitals

In any community each grown person should be responsible for his own well-being. There are, however, people who sometimes are not able to take care of themselves. Usually one out of every twelve persons in a city cannot meet the lowest standard of healthful living. He then needs the help of the city employees trained for social service, such as those in general hospitals, clinics, and the Public Health Nurses' staff. A medical Social Service Division decides when patients should be sent to general hospitals, and helps them adjust their lives in cases of illness or injury. A staff of 34 Public Health Nurses works for the control of tuberculosis, venereal disease, smallpox, whooping cough, and diphtheria. This staff also inspects boarding homes for children and convalescent homes for the aged, besides acting as nurses for the parochial schools.

In order to carry out the extensive program of the Department of Health, funds are provided from the city budget with the addition of some federal and state aid. Eighty per cent of these funds are spent to maintain the General Hospitals.

The Visiting Nurse Association, supported by the Community Chest, furnishes free or part-pay service to those people who need it most. It employs a staff of over forty nurses who also carry a heavy responsibility in the city's health program.

HEALTHY, WEALTHY, AND WISE

Since so much of your happiness in life depends upon your physical condition, it is smart to be healthy. You can't enjoy a hearty meal unless you have a good appetite. You can't score a touchdown, unless you feel like playing the game. You can't complete a job unless you feel like tackling it, and even a movie seems dull when you are not feeling well. The public schools realize that you must be physically fit in order to work, to play, or to enjoy life, and they have made every effort since the day you entered kindergarten to cooperate with your parents in guarding your health.

There are hundreds of children living together in every public school. Each forms a community of young people. Each has problems of community health. And even as a community has a well-planned health program, so, too, does a school. This program includes provision of a healthful school environment, health services, and health instruction.

When you entered the public schools, you began to take part in this health program. You formed your own health habits as you adjusted to your school equipment and group living. You learned the location of wash rooms, drinking fountains, the lunch room, and the health center. You learned when to play, when to rest, when to wash your hands, how to choose nourishing food, and how to develop good posture. You learned the value of cleanliness in your person and your surroundings. You were not satisfied unless your school environment was clean and healthful. You were willing to cooperate to keep it so.

Through the nurse and the health center, many health services are given you during your school life. The nurse keeps your health record throughout the years. On this she reports your growth in height and weight, your vision and hearing scores, your physical defects and their corrections, the cavities, fillings, and cleanliness of your teeth, the children's diseases you have had, the condition of your nose and throat, and whether you have been immunized against diphtheria and smallpox.

The school nurse inspects children new in the community and investigates any health problems which teachers or parents refer to her. She fights the spread of epidemics through daily check-ups. She advises you how physical defects can be remedied and tests both your vision and hearing. She also assists the dentist who examines your teeth and the doctor who gives you the tuberculin test. And when you are taken ill suddenly or are injured at school, it is to her that you turn for first aid. If you are a senior girl in high school, the school nurse gives you a brief course in home-nursing.

Your teachers, too, have a large part in the school health program, for it is from them that you receive much of your health instruction. They give you lessons based on the latest information about health habits and disease. From them you learn how much sleep your body requires, the best types of exercise, how to choose a balanced meal, precautions to take against disease, and many other important health facts.

Sometimes you are worried about your own problems or those of your family, and wish there were someone to whom you could turn for help. The school nurse can suggest which of thirty-five welfare agencies providing health services can serve you best:

General Clinic Service

Alfred Benjamin Dispensary, Admiral and Harrison
Richard Cabot Clinic, 721 West 18th Street
Children's Mercy Hospital, 1710 Independence
General Hospital No. 1, 24th and Cherry
General Hospital No. 2, 600 East 22nd (Negro)
University of Kansas Hospital, Out-Patient Department,
39th and Rainbow Blvd.
Wheatley Provident Hospital, 1826 Forest (Negro)

Dental Clinics

Alfred Benjamin Dispensary (Part pay)
Richard Cabot Clinic (Free)
Children's Mercy Hospital (Free)
Lowry Dental Clinic, 10th and Troost (Free)
Switzer Dental Clinic, 1829 Madison (Part pay)
Western Dental Clinic, 10th and Troost (Part pay)
Wheatley Provident Hospital, (Free)

Immunization Centers

Alfred Benjamin Dispensary
Richard Cabot Clinic
General Hospital No. 1
General Hospital No. 2

Well Baby Stations for Pre-School

Child Relief No. 1, Bancroft School, 4300 Tracy
Dunbar School (Negro), 5515 East 36th St.
Grace and Holy Trinity Church, 415 W. 15th St.
Guadalupe Center, 1015 W. 23rd
Institutional Church, 702 Admiral Blvd.
Junior League Children's Clinic, 915 W. 44th
Kiwanis Club Health Center Carver School (Negro), 1514
Campbell
Minute Circle Friendly House, 3026 E. 21st St.
Richard Cabot Clinic, 721 W. 18th St.
St. Francis Health Center, 623 No. Agnes
Whatsoever Circle Community House, 2801 Independence
Wheatley Provident Hospital, 1826 Forest

Other Agencies

Children's Service Association, 114 Railway Exchange
Bldg., 705 Walnut (Protestant children, white and
colored, from infancy to eighteen years)
Catholic Welfare Bureau, Sharp Bldg., 18 E. 11th
Division of Sanitation and Inspection, City Hall
Nursing Division of City Health Department, City Hall
Visiting Nurses Association, Rialto Bldg., 906 Grand
Vocational Rehabilitation, 911 Walnut
1020 McGee
Council of Social Agencies
Child Guidance and Mental Hygiene Society
Kansas City Tuberculosis Society
Social Hygiene Society
Children's Bureau
Children's Health and Milk Committee
Society for Prevention of Heart Disease
Society for Cancer Control
Dental Hygiene Society
Housing Committee

As you come in contact with people needing help and not knowing where to turn, there are two things which you can do without much effort: first, report the facts of the case to a police officer, juvenile court judge, or other city official; second, telephone or write one of the public agencies, giving the name and address of the person in need.

BECOMING HEALTH CONSCIOUS

Early American cities did not think much about the problems of health or sanitation. The pioneers of the Town of Kansas were no different. When the first cholera epidemic spread over the town in 1849, killing one half of its four hundred inhabitants and causing many others to flee, an historian of that day wrote: "The Almighty, in His mysterious methods of carrying off the surplus of humanity, brought the cholera." This awful disease had come to the water front town with a colony of Belgians arriving here from New Orleans. It spread like wildfire, in spite of the fearless efforts of the doctors to stop it.

No doctors had settled in the Town of Kansas before 1847. The Indians, who had been here earlier, were cared for by their own medicine men and the first white settlers by the Jesuit priests. But during 1847, Dr. Benoist Troost, a native of Holland, who had been an assistant surgeon in Napoleon's army, came to practice in this frontier settlement. By 1848, Dr. Isaac Ridge had located here and the first drug store was opened by Dr. F. A. Rice.

The first physicians in this wilderness community had to be both hardy and brave. They often made long journeys on horse back across the prairies and forded swollen streams. Those patients who were more than a day's journey away were urged by advertisements in the local newspapers to mail a list of their symptoms to the doctor and receive his prescription for their ailments.

During the Civil War, physicians in this border town were

allowed by both armies to go about unharmed while treating their patients. At the beginning of the war, a United States General Hospital was set up in the City of Kansas to care for the wounded and remained in operation until 1864.

Problems of sanitation for many years were of small concern to pioneer citizens. Surface drainage and open cesspools were constant dangers to health. Malaria and smallpox threatened lives each year, especially during the summer months. For many years O. K. Creek (now flowing under the Union Station) was an open sewer. The first to be covered was the old Main Street sewer, having walls sprinkled with lime and a roof covered with logs. By 1867, however, enough citizens were interested in correcting the unhealthful living conditions here to approve the appointment of a Board of Health, and two years later, the building of the first General Hospital (on the site where General Hospital No. 2 stands today).

An ordinance giving the mayor power to appoint a city physician was passed in 1871. By 1874, the Jackson County Medical Society had been formed, for the purpose of raising the health standards of the community. As the people of the rapidly growing city became more health conscious, a city chemist was appointed in 1888 to test the water supply and to aid in diagnosing and checking the spread of disease.

The General Hospital was enlarged to include the addition of tuberculosis and contagion units by 1899, and by 1908, a new General Hospital was opened. Above its doors are these words, carved in stone, "The quality of mercy is not strained," explaining its purpose to welcome all who need its care. In the same year General Hospital No. 2 for Negroes was opened. A special hospital was built in 1915 for patients having tuberculosis. By 1918, an Isolation Building was opened to care for those having contagious diseases. The opening of this building showed the progress made by the community in its attitude toward health, for when Kansas City was the struggling City of Kansas, there

had been a "pest house" on an island in the Missouri River, where those suffering from contagious diseases were sent. There are also many private hospitals in Kansas City which serve the ill and suffering.

Throughout the years of improving the city's health condition, there have been many outstanding leaders. Two of these may be called Kansas City's "health heroes" because of the important work they did in public health and the valiant fight they made to establish hospitals—one for children and one for tuberculous patients.

Mercy Hospital stands today as a monument to the love of two women for children and their untiring efforts to relieve their suffering. The \$300,000 building, erected in 1917, grew from an unbelievably small beginning in 1897. Two sisters, Dr. Alice Berry Graham and Dr. Katherine Richardson, as young girls, had been told by their father: "The mother who looks after her own children deserves no special commendation. The truly charitable woman is big enough to help children other than her own." When the young women were ready to practice dentistry and medicine, they took into their own home a young crippled child whose mother had been trying to give it away. Soon other children received the sympathy and care of the two sisters, and from this simple beginning a hospital was started.

After the death of Dr. Graham, Dr. Richardson carried on this great work alone and the hospital grew to take care of thousands of sick and crippled children. The doors of Mercy Hospital have opened to over 20,000 young patients in a single year. On the cornerstone of the building are chiseled these words: "In 1897, Dr. Alice Berry Graham founded this hospital for sick and crippled children, to be forever non-sectarian, non-local, and for those who cannot pay." No child in need of medical attention has ever been turned away.

Dr. E. W. Schauffler, who had come here shortly after the Civil War, was a Kansas City doctor whose keen interest in tu-

berculosis led to the beginning of open air rooms in the public schools and the establishment of a hospital for tuberculous patients at Leeds. Dr. Schaufler thought children from homes where there was a case of active tuberculosis should be given special care in order to build up their resistance against the disease. By placing them in classrooms where the program provided for periods of rest, midday meals, and hot lunches, these children could become stronger. Open air rooms today admit other children who need this type of program.

Dr. Schaufler worked many years to show Kansas Citians the need for special care for tuberculous patients, and lived to see his dream of a special hospital for them come true in 1915.

Another vital force in making the community more health conscious and protecting its welfare is the Jackson County Medical Society. Beginning early in the city's history, it has had two purposes: first, to educate the public to better health practices, and second, to increase the physicians' knowledge and skill. To provide better health education for the people of Kansas City, it has been aided by its Women's Auxiliary, which has sponsored a Health Forum since 1937, where speakers who are authorities in their field are invited to talk on disease and health. The Jackson County Medical Society also sponsors the Educational Radio Program, "Health and Happiness." The society advises those who ask about doctors and medical matters, and provides free medical service in clinics at the General Hospitals and social service centers throughout the city.

The Jackson County Medical Society has further proved its interest by backing a group health insurance plan to provide better medical and surgical care for those of moderate incomes. This plan, known as the Blue Cross Hospital Plan, was organized in 1938 and today has 131,000 members in the Greater Kansas City area. Health authorities figure that three out of every five families will have some need of hospital care each year, so instead of borrowing money to meet an emergency, they can assure their

families the medical attention they need by paying \$1.50 a month. A similar group plan is in operation for surgical care and another for medical care in the hospital.

In order to increase the physician's knowledge and skill, the Jackson County Medical Society established the Kansas City Southwest Clinical Society which holds conferences for the doctors of this entire region.

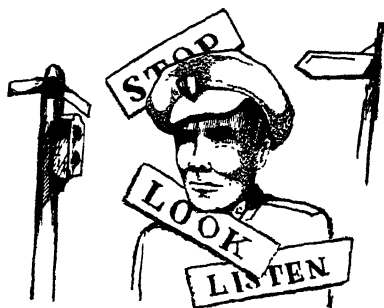
In 1919, following the influenza epidemic of the first World War, a group interested in the welfare of Kansas City's pre-school children organized the Children's Bureau. Its purpose was to assist in the discovery of defects in pre-school children, to correct these defects when possible, and to educate parents in training their children. Today this bureau is a part of the Health Education division of the City Department of Health.

Each year Kansas City has become increasingly interested in the physical welfare of its people. Chest X-Rays, skin tests, and health examinations have been given to many different groups. Monthly institutes and neighborhood round-ups for pre-school children have been sponsored by the Department of Health.

Just as your city has learned to guard the health of each of its citizens, so you, too, are becoming more health conscious. When you look at the label on a milk bottle to see if it says "pasteurized," you are showing an interest in your own health protection. When you read the amount of butter fat printed on the waxed wrapper of a pound of butter, or the ingredients listed on a can of chili, or the words "pure fruit coloring" on a bottle of flavoring, you are assuring yourself that you are buying pure food products.

As you become more health conscious, you should be able to tell which division of government—city, state, or federal—does each of the following: enforces the provisions of the Drug Act, furnishes vaccine for vaccination, demands proper labeling of canned goods, regulates smoke from chimneys, provides public health nurses, zones residence and business districts of the city,

inspects public buildings, and regularly removes garbage and rubbish. And when you check on these, you help to make your community "clean, hale, and hearty."



6. Playing Safe

FLAME FIGHTERS

It was very quiet in the early morning hours at the Fire Alarm Exchange on Hospital Hill. The men on the night shift were lounging in their chairs before the fire alarm board. Two were talking together, one was reading the evening paper, while a fourth was playing solitaire. The large room whose walls were lined with rows of signal machines was heavy with cigarette smoke. Finally, the card player yawned and glanced through the window to see if the first signs of daylight were breaking. There was no sound but the mournful whistle of a streamliner as it cleared the city.

Suddenly a light flashed from one of the machines. With this signal of alarm, the men went into action. Those at the switchboard learned the location of the fire, then glanced at the map of the city nearby to see what fire companies were available to send. This map showed the six fire districts into which the city is divided. The lights on it told which companies were out on call, and the dispatchers at the Fire Alarm Exchange could then flash word immediately to the several companies which would answer the alarm. A third man was scanning the ticker tape carefully as it fell from a machine. He followed its message as he counted the holes punched in the paper. "3-5-1-2," he read, and waited for it to repeat; "3-5-1-2," came the numbers again. This time he checked the numbers on the box below, and learned that the fire was at Eighth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. He knew that the alarm had been turned in from the alarm box numbered 3512 which stood on the corner of these two streets.

By this time, the head dispatcher at the switchboard had sent three companies to the scene of the fire. A glance at the map of the city with its lights telling which companies were out on duty had told him that two companies in the district from which the alarm came were already fighting fires, so he dispatched three others nearby. The fate of the people who were trapped

in the fire was held in the hands of the alert dispatchers whose job it was to send help immediately.

Although they had done their part, in this instance help came too late. The afternoon edition of the newspaper for the next day carried these headlines:

**FIRE KILLS TWO
OVERCOME BY SMOKE
NEIGHBOR GIVES ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION
BABY'S LIFE SAVED**

This is just one of the tragedies in the lives of people caused by fire. Each year in Kansas City the loss from fires runs into huge amounts. In 1944, nearly 5,000 alarms were turned in, and in that same year, \$1,652,636 worth of property went up in smoke. It can be figured that for each person living here, there was an average loss of \$4.13. Part of this great loss was due to one large fire which raged in a downtown warehouse. It was a three-alarm fire which called out six chiefs and eighteen companies to fight a seven-hour battle with the consuming flames. High pressure streams were turned upon the fire, but leaping flames and scorching heat made it very hard to control, and the loss was great.

Today Kansas City has forty fire companies with a force of almost 500 men. They are supplied with the latest fire fighting equipment, which includes pumpers, aerial trucks, turret nozzles, service ladder trucks, an airport crash truck, and portable acetylene cutting torches.

How different the methods of fighting fires in the pioneer days were from the efficient, modern flame fighting today! The Town of Kansas, like all other towns and cities then, depended upon bucket brigades for fire protection. When the alarm was sounded either by the firing of guns, the clanging of church bells, or a man on horseback galloping through the streets shouting "Fire!", every citizen seized a bucket. A line was formed between

the fire and the water supply, and buckets were passed from hand to hand until the burning building was saved or lost.

As the town grew, the first fire company was organized in 1867. There were twenty-five members who wore proudly their uniforms of red shirts with pearl buttons and bright blue trousers. Those who belonged felt a glowing pride in their membership, for volunteer fire companies were social organizations. The first members chose the "John Campbell Fire Company" as their name, in honor of the public-spirited citizen who had supplied much of their equipment. Their chief delight was a "steamer" fire engine, brought here by boat and kept in the market house on the public square. It was drawn by a team of mules, rented by the city at a cost of six dollars a trip, and owned by a man who hauled macadam, so that when he heard the fire alarm ringing in the church steeple, he had to unhitch the mules and hurry with them to the public square.

In the next few years, other companies were formed—the McGee, the German, the Phoenix Hook and Ladder Companies, as well as the Washington Hose Company. There was keen rivalry between these companies which lasted even after the organization by the city of a paid fire department in 1871. Under a special act of the Missouri legislature in 1867, the City of Kansas had been given the power to organize a fire department, and to purchase its equipment. The paid fire department began its work with a force of thirty-five men, three steam fire engines, one hook and ladder truck, and one chemical engine. As soon as a paid fire department was organized, trouble arose in the ranks of the volunteer firemen. After various disputes and squabbles between the two, the volunteers lost public sympathy when they failed to answer an alarm. Finally they turned their work over to the firemen employed by the city.

In the days when steam engines were in use, equipment was drawn by horses. These animals were the best that could be bought, and were the pride of the force as they raced over the

city's rough streets and rocky hillsides. During the '90s, when Kansas City's fire department became world famous, three of these fine horses were taken by the department to the Fire Congress in London and to the Paris Exposition where they helped set a new speed record in answering alarms. This record they held later when they demonstrated their skill before the Democratic National Convention at Kansas City's Convention Hall in 1900.

Kansas City did not suffer from the disastrous fires which sometimes nearly wiped out other communities. It was constantly adding to its force and equipment, however, and by 1893, had 164 men in its fire fighting department. With the invention of the automobile came the use of motor trucks, and the purchase of additional equipment. By 1920, the department was completely motorized.

In 1924, Kansas City was the first among the cities of the nation to install a new automatic fire alarm system. This Fire Alarm Exchange was built on the north side of Hospital Hill in that year. Today this is still Kansas City's central fire alarm signal station. Through its own telephone system with several hundred miles of underground wiring and its telegraph code, it is in constant touch with all fire stations and alarm boxes.

In order to reduce the losses occurring from the number of fires in Kansas City, a training school for firemen was opened in 1928. A training tower four stories high was built at Fifteenth Street and Pennsylvania. It has been the scene of many staged rescues where firemen learned to shoot aerial ladders against its framework, to drag hose up its stairways, to descend ladders from burning buildings, and to rescue trapped victims.

In the training school, firemen today are given written, medical, and performance examinations. They must prove not only their strength and bravery, but their skill and quick thinking as well. Firemen attending drill school are given tests in the use of equipment, modern methods in fighting fires, and classes in



Fighting flames at a downtown fire

first aid. They must also drive an obstacle course in order to prove their driving ability. This training school has proved its value many times.

Yet in spite of precautions taken, Kansas City suffered losses from fires to the extent of \$855,000 and nineteen lives in 1945. Nearly 6,000 alarms were turned in, and there were over 4,400 fires. These facts are proof enough that much remains to be done to prevent loss from fires. Even with a force of over 400 men in 29 fire stations, the cooperation of every citizen is needed. The six leading causes of fire, as listed by the Kansas City Fire Department, show the results of individual carelessness:

1. carelessness with cigarettes.....441 fires
2. electric appliances and motors.....306 fires
3. waste paper, rubbish, trash.....146 fires
4. sparks from open trash fires and defective flues..128 fires

- 5. heating appliances.....112 fires
- 6. children with matches..... 85 fires

By 1940, however, the city had realized that preventing fires was more important than fighting them. As a result, more attention was given to the inspection of buildings for fire hazards. Men trained in methods of fire prevention were added to the department. In that year, every building in the city was inspected, and some owners were required to spend amounts up to several thousand dollars in order to make their buildings safe. Fire prevention programs were adopted in manufacturing plants and stores. Periodic examinations of motion picture houses, theaters, hotels, and office buildings were begun. In the years that followed, constant watchfulness has been necessary, for in 1945, out of 20,000 inspections, almost half showed fire hazards. The decrease in number of fire alarms in that same year, however, proved the worth of a fire prevention program.

Records show that every three minutes a home burns somewhere in the United States. The same records show, too, that a very high per cent of these fires were caused by carelessness and could have been prevented. Today, when fire fighting is directed by the community and protection given to all its citizens, many are apt to feel that they do not need to be concerned with a fire prevention program. Yet if the number of fires, the loss of lives, and the thousands of dollars' worth of property damage are to be reduced, each person cannot escape his own responsibility. This includes using greater care in smoking, checking the wiring system of the home as well as all of its electrical appliances, disposing of trash and rubbish, checking the storage and use of kerosene and gasoline. It also includes inspecting the flues, chimney, fireplace, furnace, the containers for storing matches and where they are placed, as well as becoming familiar with standards for the materials used in the construction of the house.

Since the Safety Council of Kansas City realizes the help

Streams of
water are thrown
on the fire even
from the top
of a ladder



that each individual can give in reducing fire losses, it sponsors a Fire Prevention Week when attention is directed to home check-ups. Through the cooperation of community groups, this council, the Fire Department, and the public schools prepared a guide for investigating fire hazards in the home. It is distributed through the schools each year so that every child and his parents may become more conscious of possible fire risks and more alert to eliminate them.

There are, however, those who say, "Why should I worry about fires? I carry insurance and the company will pay the bill." These people reason incorrectly, not stopping to realize that only a part of fire losses is covered by insurance. They also do not consider that if they carry fire insurance themselves, they are helping to pay for losses every time there is a fire. This is true because insurance companies merely spread the cost of fire loss over the whole community in the rates which they charge.

Cities throughout the nation receive a fire rating with insurance companies. They may be classified in any of five groups, depending upon the number of fires occurring each year, and also upon the condition and amount of fire equipment the city owns. The size of the fire fighting force is also a factor which is considered. In spite of improvement in its fire loss record, Kansas City's rating has not yet reached the number one group. This fact alone shows that the public needs to be more alert to the need for fire prevention, and to insist upon the most modern and complete fire fighting equipment.

Your city also protects you from fire losses by ordinances regulating building materials, construction plans, and provisions for adequate fire protection to the public. This may include fire-proof roofs, fire doors, well-marked exits, fire escapes, sprinkler systems, and asbestos curtains in theaters.

Fire control is not only a problem of the city, but of the state and nation as well. Destructive fires throughout the country reached their highest peak in 1925, and people were aroused to the need for greater fire prevention measures. Since then, state and federal governments have insisted upon more buildings that are fire-proof, effective fire fighting services, and education for fire prevention.

Each state is interested in fires and fire prevention for two reasons: first, in order to protect its timber lands from forest fires, second, in order to educate its people to prevent future disasters. A state fire warden is director of the five forestry districts into which Missouri is divided. Well-trained foresters, equipped with fire fighting tools, patrol the wooded areas. In tower lookouts are short wave radio sets to aid them. There are twenty-six state parks in Missouri. Many of their 75,000 acres are covered with fine timber which must be preserved. During the early spring, before vegetation is green, these forests are in great danger from fire because that is the time when the land is commonly "burned over."

These recreation parks are scattered throughout the state. Their timbered lands serve as camp sites, playgrounds, game preserves, bird refuges, and fish hatcheries. Tourists and campers are warned against carelessness with matches or cigarettes in all of these state parks. State law requires that fires be controlled and all camp fires extinguished.

There are also in Missouri over 2,000,000 acres of national forest lands divided into eight parks. These are all south of the Missouri River. Their names, often unfamiliar to those in the northern part of the state, are: Clark, Fristoe, Gardner, Gasconade, Pond Fork, St. Francis, Table Rock, and Wappapello. These national parks are patrolled by Forest Ranger Service under the Department of Agriculture.

ALERT TODAY—ALIVE TOMORROW

To be alive today means to be in constant danger. It might be dangerous for you to light a stove. It might be dangerous for you to cross a street or drive a car or ride in an airplane. It might be dangerous for you to go swimming. It might even be dangerous to breathe unless you breathe fresh, pure air. Yet you would not be willing to do nothing and to go nowhere in order to avoid danger—instead you want to learn how to live safely in a dangerous age.

Today accidents kill more school children than any disease—and in Kansas City one child fifteen years old or younger has been killed accidentally every eighteen days for the last two years. Not only is the accident rate for children appalling, but the rate for adults is alarming as well. During the last ten years, according to the Safety Council figures, one out of every two people in Kansas City received some type of accidental injury. One home out of every forty-eight suffered the tragedy of an accidental death. From records of the city's health and police departments, proof has been found that accidents here in 1944 caused more deaths than tuberculosis, diabetes, or childhood diseases.

There was a time when Kansas City was known as "America's Safest City." There has now been a period of ten years when no child of elementary school age met death while going to or from school. But in 1945 Kansas City's traffic death rate was eleventh from the top in its population group of cities from 250,000 to 500,000 inhabitants. Our city has obviously slipped from its former record, and needs to work hard to regain its title.

Accidental deaths in Kansas City are of several types—those occurring in the home, in motor vehicles, at work, or those considered public because they happened in buildings, on streets, or while riding street cars or busses. The chart gives a ten-year summary of the types of accident occurring here. Expert safety engineers agree that accidents don't just happen. They are definitely caused by neglect and lack of thought or watchfulness.

Accidents in Kansas City - 1935-1944

Type	Killed	Injured
Home	1,070	160,500
Motor vehicle	527	18,843
Public	306	38,250
Occupational	195	18,525
Ten-Year Total	2,098	236,118
Ten-Year Average	209	23,611

Because motor vehicles play such an important part in our modern lives, they are one of the most pressing safety problems. An amusing incident shows that Kansas City has had problems of traffic regulation ever since its horse-and-buggy days. The story is told about Colonel Milton McGee, who was mayor of Kansas City in 1871. Colonel McGee was fond of high-stepping horses and liked to drive a pair of them down the streets of the City of Kansas. At that time these streets were often used by town sports for speeding. This custom had become so dangerous that the Council had to pass an ordinance against fast driving.

On one occasion, when Mayor McGee was driving his favorite span of horses hitched to a light sulky, he gave them the reins

and raced down Grand Avenue at a three-minute gait. When the town marshal halted him for speeding, the mayor complimented him for doing his duty, fined himself, and declared that the law must be enforced. The next morning, in order to show the public that he believed in strict law enforcement and to impress it upon those who had been racing, he hitched his light sulky to the yoke of his largest oxen and tied across their horns a board with these words written upon it: "I am driving slowly today." He then drove sedately down the main street to the City Hall.

The speed of today's motor cars has made Kansas City's horse-and-buggy traffic problems seem very simple. Present-day traffic is under the direction of a special division of the Police Department, numbering about one hundred men.

During the years from 1937 to 1940, Kansas City had an excellent traffic record. In 1937, it won first place in the National Safety Traffic Contest. In 1939, it placed first in the contest for making the best safety film, as well as in the safety of its industrial plants. The next year, the city won first place in the National Safety Contest in bus and truck driving, and received a grand award.

Yet after achieving all of these honors, Kansas City lost its fine record during the war years. Deaths from motor car accidents increased. More pedestrians were killed. City streets became more dangerous. While there were fewer automobiles on them due to gasoline rationing, there were also fewer traffic officers to enforce the law.

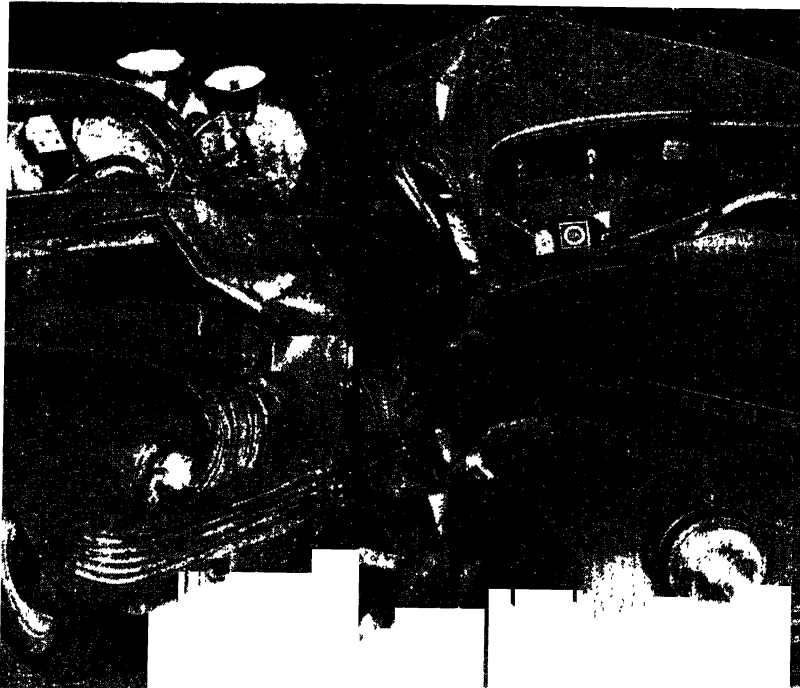
At the close of World War II, the city awoke to the seriousness of its traffic situation. The war on accidents was not over. Kansas City, as well as the nation, set about to reduce its traffic toll. Motorists were checked to see that they came to a complete halt at stop signs, that they did not jump red lights, nor make a turn from the wrong lane, or "hog" the center traffic lane while driving slowly. Brakes and headlights were checked by traffic

officers. The system of dual speeds already adopted to regulate both day and night driving was more rigidly enforced. A speed of thirty-five miles an hour was allowed on boulevards and through streets, while the limit was twenty-five miles on all other streets and for the entire city at night. These speeds were different because drivers have better vision in the daytime than at night.

Pedestrians, too, were checked for safety, for they have been a constant traffic hazard. Of the forty persons killed in 1942, twenty-six were afoot. Safety patrol cars and radio broadcasts warned against the dangers of crossing in the middle of the street, or running for street cars and busses, and of not obeying traffic lights. Movie shorts also showed the tragic results of pedestrian carelessness.

In order to better protect human life and lessen the growing number of traffic accidents, thirty-eight states and many cities

Damage resulting from a fatal collision



adopted a plan for licensing automobile drivers. In Kansas City, this plan was started in 1932. The youngest age for obtaining such a license here is sixteen. However, no examination is given to test the driver's ability or his knowledge of traffic rules and regulations, so the plan is not especially effective. Perhaps its chief force lies in the fact that a driver's license may be revoked if he is guilty of too frequent traffic violations. During 1945, 61,000 drivers' licenses were granted in Kansas City. However, there were 80,000 vehicles for which city license stickers were bought in that same year. The difference in these two figures shows that the rule requiring drivers' licenses was not strictly enforced and that the public did not fully cooperate.

Not only is a knowledge of the law necessary for good driving, but absolute obedience to it is essential also. National figures show that drivers violated the law in seven out of every ten accidents. In Kansas City, the traffic division of the Police Department declared that in almost every accident occurring here, one or both drivers were violating the laws of safe driving. These conditions show clearly that a change of attitude toward the traffic regulations is needed.

One important key for safe driving is the control of speed. Speed must be governed by the time needed for an individual to make a decision and act upon it. Engineers call this "thinking time," and in terms of distance say that it means:

—at 30 miles per hour, the car goes nearly twice its length before the driver even starts to apply his brakes, but he can usually stop in time to prevent an accident.

—at 50 miles per hour, the driver goes three car lengths before applying brakes, but he cannot stop in time to avoid hitting an object.

—at 70 miles per hour, the driver must strike the pedestrian before he can even put his foot on the brake pedal.

If those behind the wheels of automobiles would govern their speed according to the safety facts they have learned, more lives

pure water supply, regular garbage collection, sanitary swimming and wading pools, clean streets, and supervised parks and playgrounds. When the city protects your health, it is protecting your safety also.

Safety education is an important part of daily living in the public schools. Not only is it taught in classrooms, but every effort is made to practice it on school playgrounds and city streets. Safety Patrols, chosen from the older boys in elementary schools, guide young children across dangerous street crossings. In all kinds of weather these patrols are on duty before school, during part of the noon hour, and after school to direct groups of children and passing motorists.

The present Kansas City Safety Council was organized in 1922 to work for a safer city in which to live. It presents programs for safety and fire prevention in industry, traffic, schools, and homes. The council stresses correct and preventive practices which will reduce the fire and accident toll in Kansas City.

No facts can show the many problems arising when the head of a family, his wife, or child is laid up by an accident, the strain on social agencies when families can no longer make ends meet, the tragedy of a worker reduced by an accident to a less skillful occupation, or the personality changes developing from the crippling or facial scars resulting from an accidental injury. With caution, such tragedies may be avoided.

Do all you can to improve Kansas City's safety record. Play safe yourself by adopting your city's slogan—"alert today, alive tomorrow."



**7. In the
Name of the
Law**

"CALLING ALL CARS"

"Calling Car 67, calling Car 67," the voice of the police dispatcher broke the stillness of a clear winter night. Patrolmen Harrington and Mulkey sat up in their seats and gave strict attention to the voice of the radio. "Proceed to the corner of Valentine and Broadway—holdup—proceed to Valentine and Broadway—holdup," the dispatcher directed.

Immediately Officer Mulkey swung the patrol car to the right, and headed west. He sped south on Broadway, swerved to avoid a pedestrian who was stepping down from a safety island, and jammed on his brakes as he stopped in front of a motion picture theater. Then he and Officer Harrington ran from the car, pulling out their guns as they ran. An excited usher in the empty lobby, pointing to the balcony stairs, yelled, "This way! She's in the office—they robbed her!"

The two patrolmen ran up the stairs to the office of the theater, where they heard the shrill voice of Betty, the cashier, talking to the manager. They hurried into the room in time to hear her say, "They must have followed me when I came up the stairs. I was going to count my money. They just had bought two tickets for the second show—the tall one did, I mean—and I didn't think about anything being wrong when they followed me."

"When did you first know it was a holdup?" Officer Harrington asked her.

"When the little one said, 'Keep quiet and we won't hurt you,' and pointed a gun at me. I never was so scared in all my life, and —"

"Which way did they leave," Officer Mulkey interrupted. His eyes had taken in the open safe, the empty cash box, the excited girl, and the manager.

"Oh, I couldn't see—they made me lie on the floor, face down, right under this desk. I suppose they left through the lobby. You can ask Jerry—he's the usher," Betty told them.

"How long have they been gone?" Officer Harrington questioned.

"Maybe five minutes—maybe ten—I don't know. I've lost all track of time," the cashier replied, trying to keep the quiver out of her voice.

"And where were you?" the patrolman said, as he turned to the manager.

"I was back stage—a dog had gotten in there, and I was trying to get it out. The first I knew anything was wrong was when I started up to the office and heard Betty scream, 'Hold Up! It's a hold up!' I ran to her, but they'd already gone," the manager said.

"What did they look like?" Officer Mulkey asked the cashier. "We've got to have their description to broadcast."

"Oh, the tall one wore glasses and had on a brown overcoat. I couldn't tell much about the short one—all I could see was that gun in my face," Betty said.

"That doesn't give us much to go on, but we'll do the best we can. How much have you lost?" Officer Mulkey questioned the manager.

"Around \$3,000, I'd say. We had a full house for both shows. Besides, there was some cash we had on hand."

"We'll have to report to headquarters. Those two fellows can't hide out very long. Our patrol cars are in touch with each other through the radio and somebody'll probably pick 'em up."

The officers who had answered this call were a part of Kansas City's efficient police force of nearly six hundred men who are on duty day and night to combat crime and maintain law and order. The city is divided into four police districts, each having a captain in command, and each having different problems. Two of the districts are industrial and include factories, mills, and warehouses which must be protected. Another is the downtown area which must be kept free of traffic congestion, vagrants, and panhandlers. Homes in residential districts must be guarded

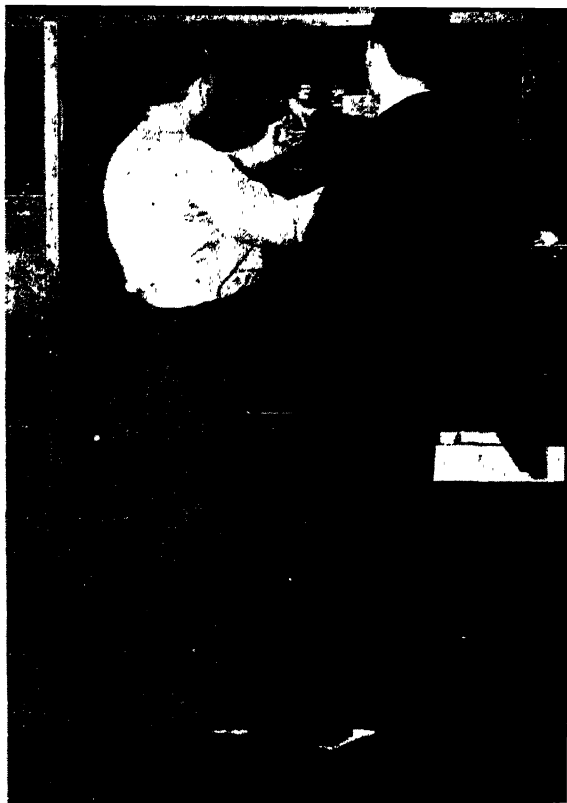
from burglary or fire. Over a hundred squad cars are assigned to patrol the various districts of the city, with two officers on duty in each car. "Cruise cars" speed to the scene of any trouble or accident, and the officers make arrests when necessary. The cars are equipped with a siren, a red spotlight, a riot gun and radio.

Not only is Kansas City divided into districts for police protection, but the work of its Police Department is divided also. There are four important divisions in the department: traffic, field service, detective, and technical service, each under the direction of a superintendent. The organization was set up in 1943, after the Missouri legislature passed the Police Bill which made it possible. It is an organization which was planned to give the greatest possible efficiency to the department. Besides the four department superintendents, there is also a chief of police and his assistant, as well as a personnel director. Police

A policeman helping children



Target
practice at
the Police
Academy



commissioners are appointed by the governor of Missouri. Although Kansas City's Police Department is under the control of the state, the mayor is always a member of the board of commissioners.

All members of the police force, except the chief, are chosen by the merit system. Policemen must make a written application, and then pass an entrance examination. Then they appear before the Board of Police Commissioners for an interview, and are voted upon by its members. The personnel office makes an investigation of the background of all applicants and checks their references. At the time of making their application, the future police officers are finger-printed. One set of their fingerprints

is checked by the local Record Bureau, and another is checked by the F. B. I. in Washington.

Following their interviews before the Board, applicants are sent to the surgeon of the Police Department for a physical examination. If their investigations and examinations are satisfactory, they are then enrolled in recruit school. This they must attend for three weeks in order to learn good police practice and criminal law, as well as to become familiar with the city ordinances and other subjects a police officer should know. Applicants also work in the field with experienced officers during this time. They are given training in the use of the pistol, shot gun, rifle, and tear bomb. They train in the police gymnasium to harden their muscles, and to learn jiu-jitsu. They practice disarming and searching prisoners, and handling persons under the influence of liquor and drugs. They learn first aid in order that they may be able to save lives when emergencies arise. The police must also know the geography of the city, including the location of streets, parks, boulevards, buildings, and places of amusement. Certain members are given instruction in the use of teletype and telephone, how to identify persons, to mark property held for evidence, and to preserve finger prints at the scene of crime.

After applicants have finished recruit school, they must pass another examination before they can enter the Police Academy. There they receive their uniforms, firearms, and other equipment. By this time they are policemen on probation, and work in the field as well as continue their studies for six months. If, at the end of this time, they have proved themselves responsible officers of the law, they become full-fledged members of the police force.

FROM TOWN MARSHAL TO POLICE CHIEF

For years Kansas City was a frontier town, and consequently suffered from border lawlessness. There were few officers of the law to meet such conditions. There were so few, in fact, that at times the vigilantes, an organization of private citizens, were

forced to take matters into their own hands in order to rid the town of undesirable characters.

Under the charter of 1853, the City of Kansas elected a marshal to keep the peace. By 1859, he and his deputies could make an arrest anywhere in Jackson County. He received certain fees for performing his duties:

\$1.00 for each arrest

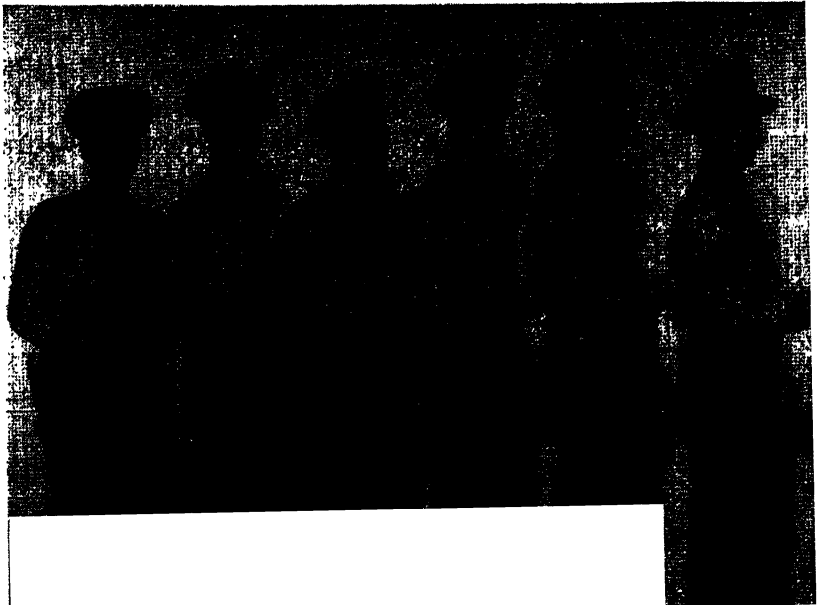
25¢ for each subpoena

75¢ for summoning a jury

for serving an attachment of persons or property
for each meal furnished prisoners

In 1874, a police law was passed by the Missouri legislature, giving to Kansas City the right to organize a regular police force. Not until then did the city have even the beginning of a police system. This consisted of a small number of raw recruits, but from this beginning developed the modern, well trained force of

A squad of police officers



today. The Kansas City police force was governed by the law of 1874 until 1899, when a new law was passed which gave the state the power to appoint, govern, and control the city police system. This law took away the city's rights to "home rule" in the Police Department, and placed the power in the hands of the governor of Missouri. The need for this action came because the Kansas City police were tolerating gambling dens, winking at vice, and accepting bribes. Kansas City was a "wide open" town.

The state kept control of Kansas City's Police Department for over thirty years. But with state officials continually being elected by a Republican majority and Kansas City government remaining in the hands of the Democratic party, the forces did not work well together. Since discord does not make for efficiency, a movement was begun in 1919 by the Chamber of Commerce to return the police to the city under "home rule." As a result, in 1932, after arguments and a court decision, control passed from the state into the hands of local authorities, where it remained for seven years. During that time, with a single political inner group influencing the government, the Police Department became the tool of politicians, with many of the force uninterested in serving the needs of the people. So by 1939, the legislature passed a law returning police control once again to the state. This is the reason that today the board of police commissioners is a bi-partisan one of four members chosen by the governor. State law fixes all Police Department salaries, but requires the city to set aside at least one sixth of its general fund revenues for police purposes.

For nearly ten years, police headquarters have been in the modern Police Building at 1125 Locust. Here are located the jail, the holdover, two court rooms, a basement garage, and the offices of the various divisions of the Police Department.

From the days when Kansas City needed only a town marshal to those when its police chief directs the activities of hundreds of employees, great strides have been made in combating crime.

SCIENCE versus CRIME

Before scientific methods were applied to solving crimes, many criminals escaped and many innocent persons were wrongfully punished. Today, however, agencies concerned with justice attempt to make law enforcement swifter and more certain. Rapid transportation, speedy communication, and the modern methods of scientific laboratories are all aids in checking crime.

In keeping with modern methods of preventing and lessening crime, the Kansas City Police Department is organized in four divisions. The work of the Traffic Division includes accident prevention and investigation, school safety, and downtown traffic. It is carried on by motorcycle squads and safety cars. Members of this division give safety talks and show films to school children, Parent Teacher groups, and other organizations. They are on the lookout constantly for traffic violations. They make use of the drunkometer to discover whether a driver is intoxicated, and of an automatic checker which records accurately the speed of a moving car. Members of the Traffic Division use spot maps to tell where and when the most accidents occur. Safety cars carry equipment for testing the efficiency of brakes and headlights. Traffic arrests are usually for speeding, careless driving, drunken and careless driving, leaving the scene of an accident, driving with bad brakes, and for moving and parking violations. Many traffic cases are brought before the daily sessions of Traffic Court.

The Field Service Division refers to the department whose officers patrol the streets of the city in cruise cars. Through its two way radio system, members of this division receive prowler calls and investigate suicide cases. They report traffic lights which are not working, broken street lights, holes in the street, and unlocked doors and windows in places of business. They also give first aid and pick up mental cases. The vice squad of this division investigates juvenile delinquents and suspicious characters. The License Bureau, another part of the Field Service



A crime expert
in the Police
Laboratory

Division, licenses the sale of cigarettes and grants licenses to taxicab drivers. This bureau also makes regular inspections after licenses have been granted. The Detention Bureau and the City Jail are also under the direction of the Field Service Division. Officers in this division also have the right to issue traffic tickets whenever they see violations.

One of the most dramatic divisions of the Police Department is the Detective Division, for it investigates crimes. This division is composed of a burglary and robbery bureau, a homicide section, an auto theft department, and one for general assignment. The Detective Division handles cases of robberies, purse-snatchers, bicycle thefts, bad checks and forgeries, pick-pockets, con-games, frauds and embezzlements, shop-lifting, auto thefts, stolen tires, attempted suicides, disturbance of the peace, common assault, investigation of missing persons, sabotage, and espionage. The

homicide bureau investigates all cases of murder or supposed murder, as well as manslaughter.

Probably the most scientific of all the divisions of the Police Department is the Technical Service Division. The work of this division is divided among a Communication Bureau, a Technical Bureau including a laboratory, a Record and Identification Bureau, and the Police Academy. The Communication Bureau has charge of all radio equipment and teletype machines, as well as a disaster line to the headquarters of the Red Cross. The Technical Bureau uses means known to modern science for solving crime, such as the lie detector, finger printing, and the analysis of bullets, bullet holes, guns, and blood stains. Expert scientists in the police laboratory are a great help in combating crime. Criminal and civilian files are kept in the Bureau of Records, and thousands of finger prints are also on file.

BEFORE THE COURTS OF JUSTICE

"Hear ye! Hear ye! The Municipal Court of Kansas City, Missouri, is now in session. Let everyone stand," the voice of the bailiff chanted. As the judge entered, the bailiff continued, "Let there be no smoking or talking in the court room. Please observe order and be seated."

With this simple ceremony, the afternoon session of Municipal Court Division Number One opened. The judge took his place at his desk on the platform beside the clerk, the deputy parole officer, and the city counselor, who then called for cases in which continuances were desired. Since there were none, he proceeded to the regular docket with the request, "Is there anyone in the court room charged with speeding who desires to plead guilty? If so, please come forward."

Numerous defendants, both men and women, came forward. At the suggestion of the counselor, they formed in line and with drivers' licenses and summonses ready, passed in front of the judge. He examined the record of each person, assessed fines

and suspended licenses in some cases, and warned each defendant to drive more carefully and not exceed the speed limits.

The counselor then called the cases of John D—— and Henry W——. Immediately two young men stepped up to the railing in front of the judge's bench. As they gave their names to the counselor, he handed an account of the charges against them to the judge. Beside the men stood the uniformed police officer who had arrested them.

The judge raised his hand and asked the two young men to raise their right hands also. "Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?" he said.

When the young men had taken the oath, the judge read from their records, "John D——, you are charged with driving an automobile while under the influence of liquor and careless driving. And you, Henry W——, are charged with being drunk in public. How do you plead?"

"Guilty," came the low spoken answer from both young men.

"Will the witnesses please proceed with the testimony?" the judge requested. At this, the traffic officer standing beside the defendants turned to the judge and spoke.

"Your honor, I followed this car for several blocks and checked its speed. The driver was doing over sixty. When I finally got him into the curb, I could tell from the way he talked that he was drunk. I asked him for his driver's license, and he had none. He said he didn't live in Kansas City and was just here for the weekend. Then I said, 'If you don't have a license, whose car is this?' He said, 'It's my boy friend's,' and pointed to this other fellow. He had passed out and was asleep in the back seat."

"What do you have to say for yourself?" the judge asked the young driver.

"Nothing, I guess—it's all true," and the young man shrugged his shoulders.



Traffic court in session

"Well, it's about time you did have something to say. Besides this offense, I see here that you have a previous traffic record for speeding," the judge remarked sharply as he fingered the police files of the two defendants.

"Don't you realize that you should never get into a car when you're drinking—that in such a condition you're a potential killer? Some drunken drivers go unusually slow when they're at the wheel of a car, but your tendency is for speed. The only reason you aren't being tried for manslaughter and facing a prison sentence is because no one got in your way."

The young man listened to the stern words of the judge and winced as he heard him say, "I'm going to fine you \$50 for driving while you were intoxicated and \$25 for speeding. I also suspend your license for driving on the streets of Kansas City for a period of a year, since you already have a police record and haven't profited from your past experience. And as for the owner of the car," the judge added as he turned to the second young

man, "You're old enough to know that you should never have been in such a condition that it was necessary for your friend to drive you home. He was not fit to drive a car and neither were you. Your fine will be \$15."

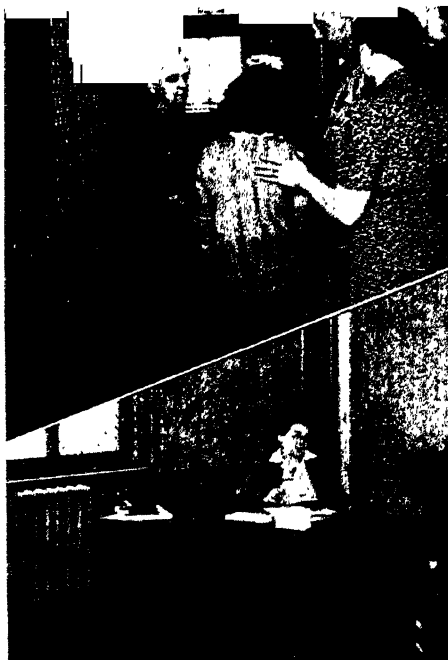
The two young men walked to the clerk's desk and paid their fines. Their grave faces as they left the courtroom told that they now realized fully the seriousness of their offense.

This case is typical of many which are heard in the courtrooms of the two divisions of the Municipal Court. Those who disturb the peace, are guilty of assault, traffic violations, or other misdemeanors are brought here. Rows of polished benches, tall windows, the judge's bench on the platform flanked by American flags—all contribute to the dignity of the courtroom. Into it pass thousands of people in a year's time, for traffic courts touch the lives of more persons than do any other courts. If a jury is desired in a trial of a traffic or other case in Municipal Court, the case must be appealed to the Circuit Court of Jackson County in order to obtain jury trial.

Fines are levied and sentences given to the Municipal Farm or Women's Reformatory according to the seriousness of the offense. Paroles are recommended and granted in cases which are supervised and handled by the Parole Division of the Welfare Department. In every way possible, it tries to rehabilitate defendants and make them good citizens. Before the judge's bench passes a parade of troubled humanity, all of whom must be treated with justice fairly and impartially administered under the facts and circumstances of each case.

Children who are brought before the courts have their cases investigated by the Juvenile Court of Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri. A special building for this purpose has been erected at 1305 Locust. Here children's problems receive the special attention and sympathetic understanding of the judge of the court, who holds informal hearings in his office rather than in a courtroom. Social case workers study the problems of each child

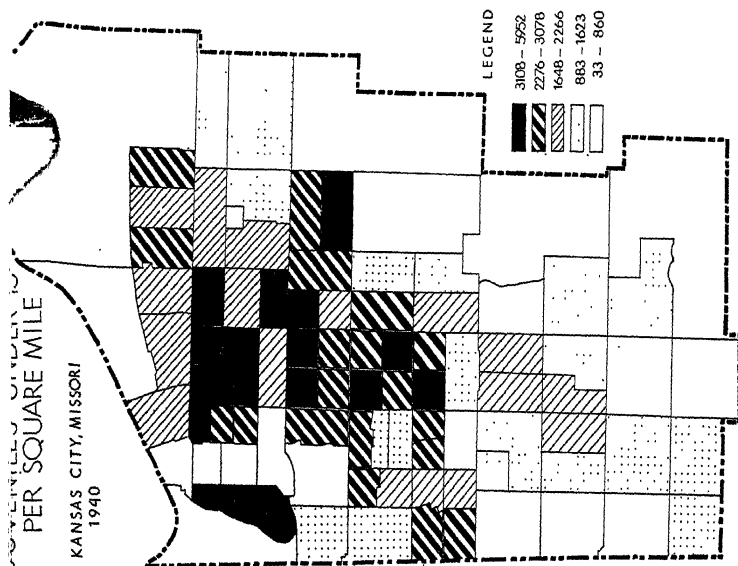
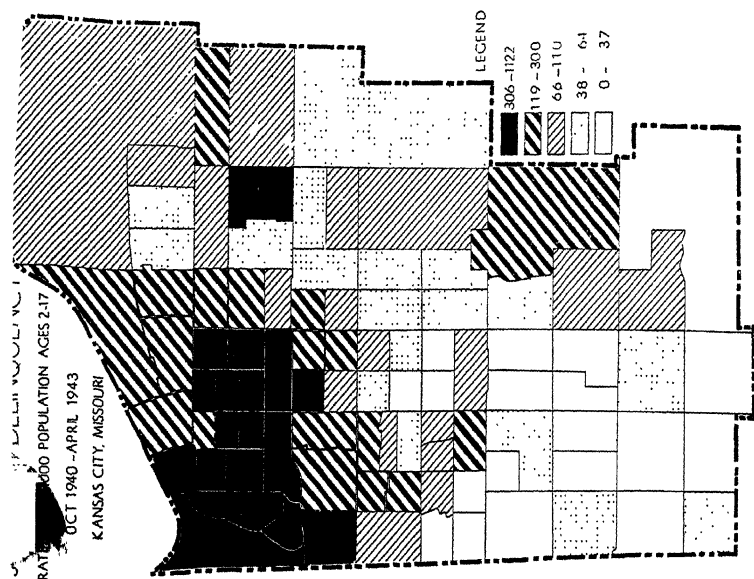
Detention
Headquarters



before his case is heard, and are then ready to recommend to the judge what is best for his welfare.

A need for separate courts for children in Missouri was felt as early as 1903, when laws were passed to create juvenile courts. In counties where there were more than one circuit judge, such as in Jackson County, the judges selected one of their number to act as juvenile judge. The Juvenile Court of Kansas City is built upon hope for and faith in children. Its responsibility is to save the best that is to be found in the lives of boys and girls who are brought into court in order that one day they may become useful citizens. To do this, the judge works with educational, religious, and community leaders.

Social problems of boys and girls arise because they are sometimes the victims of broken homes, divorced parents, working mothers, parents who are unable to care for them, or communities which are indifferent to their needs for wholesome recreation. Because of these conditions, children sometimes get into serious trouble and need the counsel of the court. A De-



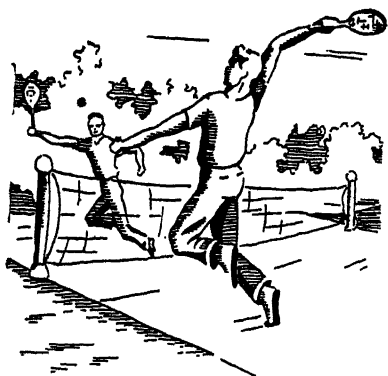


Adoption proceedings in the Juvenile Court

tention Home, a trained probation staff, and the services of health clinics often aid these children and their parents in solving their problems. As many as 1600 children have come before the court in a single year. Sometimes homes must be found for them, and they are placed either in orphanages or boarding homes under the supervision of the court. Sometimes they are sent to county homes, such as the McCune Home for Boys and the Girls' Parental Home, and the Little Blue Home for Negro Girls and Boys.

Today all adoptions of babies and children in Jackson County are handled by the Juvenile Court, since the welfare of a child must always be placed above merely legal procedure. Foster parents are carefully investigated before final papers are drawn up, and their homes inspected after children have been placed in them. During a recent ten year period, an average of over 450 adoptions a year were arranged by the Juvenile Court.

Since law and order are primary concerns of all citizens, applying justice is a responsibility of Kansas City's government. The Police Department and the city courts act in the name of the law.



8. For the General Welfare

WHAT THE CONSTITUTION SAYS

To "promote the general welfare" has been an ideal of the people of the United States ever since the adoption of the Constitution. The words of this phrase are found in its preamble. They name one of the six goals of our federal government.

The term "general welfare" has a very broad meaning. It includes all the powers of government connected with the life of an individual. In order to "promote the general welfare," Congress was given the power to levy taxes for carrying on government, to regulate commerce between the states and with other nations, to establish post offices and maintain post roads for a system of communication, and to make laws for the good of all.

The men who wrote the Constitution, however, did not refer to the social well-being of an individual when they used the term "general welfare." Government concern over a person's health, happiness, and prosperity did not come until over a hundred years after the adoption of the Constitution, and even then its growth was very gradual. Government interest in human welfare came only after the machine age had brought with it new problems of industry.

Families of pioneer times, who had worked within their homes to produce the goods they needed, were supplanted by large groups of factory workers living within small areas of crowded cities. With this type of group living came new problems of insecurity, disease, poverty, and care for the handicapped. While these had been the concern of pioneers and their neighbors who stood by each other in time of trouble, they now became the concern of the community. In a large city, neighbors are often strangers and cannot help each other in time of need.

CIVIC WELFARE BEGINS

At the start of the twentieth century, Kansas City was facing critical problems involving the welfare of its citizens. In

fact, it was the first city government in the nation to establish a Board of Public Welfare for the social well-being of its people. The winter of 1909-1910 had been a very severe one, and there was much suffering due to unemployment. Men with no jobs marched to the office of the mayor asking for work. The mayor listened to their story with sympathy, but had no work to offer them. Instead, he appointed a committee to investigate the conditions of the unemployed and the needy, and to recommend to the city council what could be done to help them. After studying the situation, this committee of two, Mr. William Volker, president of the Board of Pardons and Paroles, and Mr. Gus Pearson, city comptroller, made the following report:

"In this land of plenty there should be no lack of food, clothing, or shelter for the industrious poor; no lack of care for the sick, but the chronic idler or the delinquent must ever be shown the error of his way. Systematic, intelligent, preventive work would, we believe, yield large returns. The problem appears to us to be of the utmost importance and worthy of the most serious considerations of our best and wisest citizens. We, therefore, suggest that the appointment of a large committee of representative citizens, selected from the various business, civic, and professional lines of the city's life be made, who shall work out and recommend the adoption of a plan calculated to cover, in a comprehensive manner, the city's duties toward the unemployed, the poor, the sick, and delinquent."

As a result of this report, the Board of Public Welfare was established in 1910. Before this time, the government of Kansas City had shown little or no interest in the lives of the less fortunate. Thinly clad newsboys, bootblacks, and year-round loafers roamed the streets, and nothing was done to help them. Earliest concern for relief was shown by the police for the city's prisoners. In 1853, a workhouse was built for those who could not pay their fines. This workhouse was fourteen by sixteen feet, divided into two rooms by heavy oak planks, but poor as it was, it was to be preferred to the city jail.

For over forty years the city government made little attempt to aid the needy, except for the custom of the Mayor's Christmas Tree, begun in 1884. What help was given to the poor was furnished by churches, lodges, individuals, or the Provident Association. Regular care by the city for those deserving it was unthought of. In 1888, the police opened a lodging house on Fourth Street where as many as a hundred and twenty-five men could sleep each night, after they had been given tickets at police headquarters. A beginning of city responsibility to the needy was made in 1889, when a new city charter gave the council permission "to provide for the support, maintenance, and confinement of insane persons, and to make suitable provision for the maintenance and support of poor persons."

Citizens became alarmed at workhouse conditions in 1890. Investigations showed that some prisoners there had worn riveted shackles for as long as six months without having them removed. But little was done to remedy conditions until 1909, when the workhouse was moved to the Municipal Farm about ten miles southeast of the City Hall. This farm is located one and one-half

The Municipal Farm



miles south of Leeds on the Raytown road, and was established to give wholesome surroundings to prisoners of the city in order that they might be returned to community life in a better condition physically, mentally, and morally.

The story of today's Welfare Department goes back to 1908, when a Board of Pardons and Paroles was established as its forerunner. It was the duty of the secretary of this board to provide legal counsel for the trial defense of poor people unable to supply their own lawyers. This board inquired into the cases of persons convicted in the municipal courts and recommended some for parole or pardon. A year later, the board took over from the police the management of the workhouse. When the Board of Public Welfare was set up in 1910, it then assumed the duties of the Board of Pardons and Paroles.

The original Welfare Board served without pay and had five responsibilities: (1) to acquire full knowledge of conditions of people and their manner of living in various parts of the city, (2) to have charge of all workhouses, houses of correction, houses of refuge and penal institutions, (3) to control all money appropriated and assistance given by the city for the relief of the sick, disabled, or indigent, (4) to investigate the efficiency and merit of all organizations seeking funds for charity work in the city, (5) to supervise public dance halls, skating rinks, and factories.

Many paid workers carried on the program of the board. This included a general office, a research bureau, a social service department, a legal aid bureau, a loan agency, a department for the homeless and unemployed, a parole department, a public recreation inspection bureau, a municipal farm, and a women's reformatory. A number of these departments are a part of the present Welfare Department.

THE WORK OF THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT

As long as people have lived together in groups, there have been those who needed help, whether it was food, shelter, nurs-

ing, expert skill, or sympathetic advice. These needs have increased through the years. The present Welfare Department organized in 1925 is equipped to meet them through its six divisions and the trained workers with whom those needing help can discuss their problems.

Into the office of the Social Service Division goes a passing parade of troubled humanity, needing to confide in someone. Any citizen without funds for legal aid and wanting help or advice on domestic, economic, or social problems may look for it here. For example, if a family needs a water connection in a house which has none, the case worker, after investigation, reports the matter to the Water Department. If a family is living in unsanitary quarters, the case worker may report to the Health Department and remove the family from such poor housing. If a convalescent home for the aged or a boarding home for children is applying for a license, it must first be inspected by a case worker and a report made to the city counselor's office. Families who are having domestic trouble, problems of caring for their children, or the worry of mental cases in their home may consult the Social Service Division. This bureau investigated over three thousand cases in 1945.

Another duty of the social case worker is to make recommendations for paroles. Over five hundred of these were granted in 1945. The case workers felt that these people, with assistance, could make a sincere effort to obey the laws and adjust themselves to community life.

The practice of granting paroles is one sign of society's changed attitude towards law breakers and those who may develop into criminals. In the past, it was a common belief that a criminal should not only be made to suffer for his crime, but also that he must be held up as an example to others. Living conditions in prisons in most instances were far below standards of decency.

Today, those who have studied the pattern of crime and

prison life believe that it is better to teach men, women, and youth how to rebuild their lives. Prison life now includes employment and education. Kansas City, through its Municipal Farm and Women's Reformatory, has adopted this plan for rebuilding human lives.

Before 1940, conditions at these two institutions were both unsanitary and miserable. Lack of screens or showers, falling plaster, too little ice, poor laundry equipment, and a lack of jobs or recreation for prisoners only added to their misery. In contrast, today the inside of the building has been repaired to meet decent and sanitary standards of living. A program of farming and gardening has been planned for the men. This includes raising vegetables, fruits, chickens, and hogs. About seventy-five hogs, fattened on garbage, are sold each month. Vegetables and fruits are canned at the Women's Reformatory, and used to feed both men and women prisoners.

Most of the work of the farm is carried on by those serving sentences there. Such jobs for men as carpentry, plumbing, laundry, and farming, and for women, sewing, dressmaking, cooking, and canning, occupy the time of the prisoners. Recreation periods are provided for both men and women, and opportunities are given for taking part in games. The physical well-being of each prisoner is under the care of a nurse and doctor. Fair treatment for all is the goal of the staff workers in these institutions.

Kansas City has to meet not only the problems of rebuilding adults who have done wrong, but it must also deal with those arising from juvenile delinquency. In order to better help delinquent girls, special Detention Quarters were opened in 1944. Here social workers and matrons try to help girls who are first offenders, and save them when possible from having a court record. Over 400 girls were taken care of in these quarters during the first year they were opened.

Each year the Welfare Department of Kansas City works

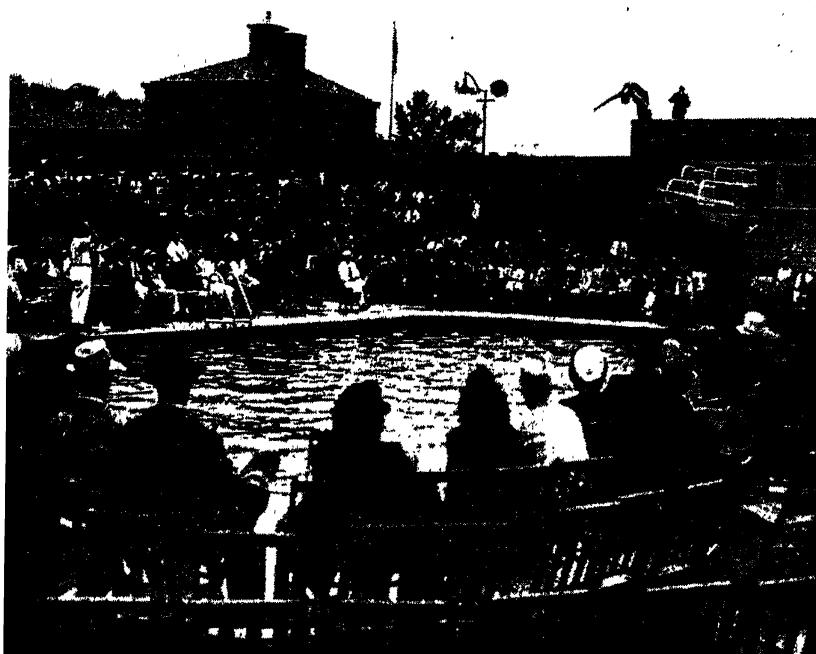


Baseball on a public playground

with many individuals through the penal institutions here. In 1944-45, the Municipal Farm had an average of sixty-two persons kept there each day, and twenty-eight were quartered at the Women's Reformatory.

The Welfare Department touches your life through its Recreation Division. You are always interested in play, and you often speak of it. "Play fair!"—"Play the game!"—"Play ball!"—"Play your cards!"—all these expressions show how important play is in your daily life. How much do you play? What games or sports do you enjoy most? What do you know about your city's plans for your fun and recreation?

Kansas City has had a regular city-wide program for play since 1940. This program includes recreation within the reach of every one. There are summer and after-school playgrounds, touch football centers, baseball diamonds, coasting areas, and boxing clubs for those who love sports. There are also organized athletic leagues and tournaments, year-round community centers, teen-age clubs, and summer camps. There are bands, orchestras,



A swimming meet at the Swope Park Pool

choruses, and community sings for music lovers, as well as street and square dances to provide enjoyment for all. Kansas City offers the 'look and enjoy" or appreciation type of recreation in its parks, trees, flowers, zoo, and band concerts. It also gives the "help yourself" type in its golf courses, picnic grounds, and swimming pools. The "take part in" variety is found in every group game played on baseball diamond or football field.

Before Kansas City took over the responsibility of public recreation, however, the Park Department and the Carrie J. Loose estate had given funds to the city for the few playgrounds and tennis courts that were here. The Board of Education furnished school playgrounds during certain hours, but these did not nearly meet the demands for a place to play. Today there are fifty-four playgrounds and sixteen community centers where thousands of Kansas Citians can learn how to enjoy life to the



A class in archery

fullest in their leisure hours. On these playgrounds and in these recreation centers the youth of the city learn the fun of playing together, to become part of a group, to work with others and respect their rights, and to grow more conscious of their responsibilities in community life.

Even with the city government taking over the recreation program, it requires the cooperation of many groups in order to make such a program possible. The Park Department, Board of Education, Council of Social Agencies, Young Women's and Young Men's Christian Association, the churches, Boy and Girl Scouts and Campfire Girls, the Parent-Teacher Association, Fathers' Clubs, and Police Department all work together so that both youth and adults may have the chance to play.

Commercial recreation, too, is an interest of the Welfare Department. Inspections are made of over 1,000 pool halls, taverns, night clubs, bowling alleys, picture shows, and penny arcades. These must all be regulated by the city authorities, for

Kansas Citians want commercial recreation operated so that it will be a credit to the community. Its supervision is necessary in order to maintain moral standards and to protect youth.

Another division of the Welfare Department is its Legal Aid Bureau. This was the first municipal department of its kind to be established in the United States, and was originally started to help persons in the collection of wage claims. Today, however, to the Legal Aid Bureau come people seeking many types of free legal advice who otherwise are unable to pay for private counsel. Of the 6,750 cases of civil law handled in 1945, the ten leading ones were those involving wage claims, affidavits, domestic relations, collection of debts, disputes between landlords and tenants, personal property, nonsupport, garnishment of wages, small loans, and breach of contract.

The Division of Markets came under the supervision of the Welfare Department for an interesting reason. It was organized

Shopping at the City Market

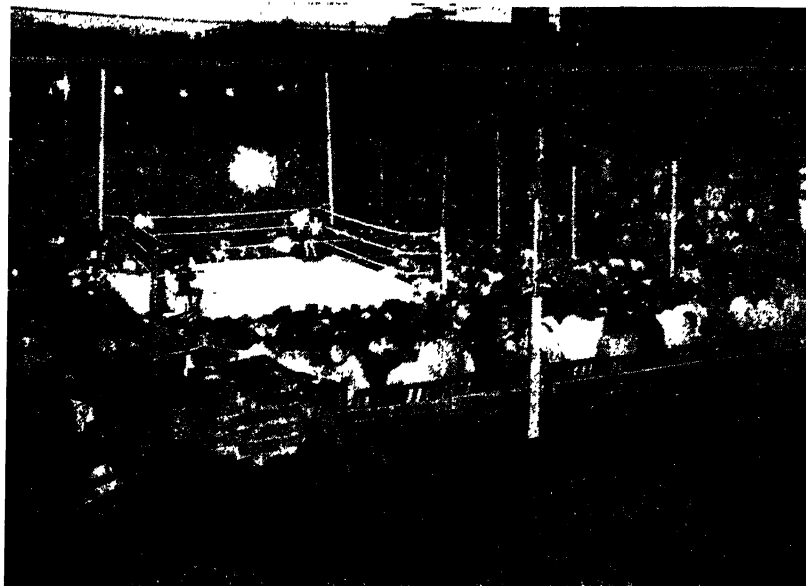


in 1913 to protect Kansas Citizens against unfair practices at the city market. Buyers could not be sure of getting what they had paid for. Those owning stalls or selling produce from their trucks and wagons were forced to conform to the Pure Food and Drug Act, as well as to the standards for correct weights and measures. The terminal market today employs a thousand persons and does a \$25,000,000 business yearly, of which \$83,000 goes to the city as revenue.

The most recently established division of the Welfare Department is the Community Service Division. It was organized in 1943 to combat the problems affecting youth which came as a result of the war. Since it is true that the welfare of youth cannot be separated from the affairs of the adult community, the Community Service Division broadened its original plans to include problems of entire neighborhoods. For this reason, it set up community councils.

The purpose of these councils was to get neighbors to talk over their common interests in town-hall fashion and solve their own problems. Many of these concerned only those persons living within a certain neighborhood. Poor lighting on a city street was the problem of the people living on that street. Too few playgrounds and recreation centers in a community were the concern of families living within it. Problems of this type were common to small areas rather than to an entire city.

The Community Service Division set up its community councils in each of nine high school districts in Kansas City. On these councils are representative citizens of the community, such as those in Parent-Teacher Associations, churches, social agencies, and business. Working closely with them is a leader, or coordinator, employed by the city, who brings together all the community agencies interested in working for the good of the neighborhood. The chief purpose of these coordinators is to help neighborhoods to help themselves, and to offer advice and counsel when it is needed.



A boxing match in an outdoor ring

Sometimes smaller districts are faced with problems of their own, and several sub-councils have been organized in elementary school districts. These groups send their delegates to the meetings of the larger councils in the high schools. There are also two workers for the scattered Negro communities, so every neighborhood in the city may receive the help of the Community Service Division.

Besides the community councils, there is a central, city-wide council. Among its members are civic, school, and welfare leaders, as well as the judge of the Juvenile Court and the Chief of Police. This larger council helps all the local community councils, and acts as a clearing house of experience for all the coordinators. Many times the problems of one neighborhood are similar to those of others, so it is well to talk them over together.

The community councils have begun many worthwhile projects. They have held Hallowe'en parties throughout the city, and helped to prevent vandalism. They have organized Teen-towns in various neighborhoods. Boys and girls have had the fun

of decorating their club rooms according to their fancy, and of planning their recreation in them. A group called "Junior Officers" has been organized to encourage leadership and responsibility among boys and girls in elementary schools. Those belonging to this group hold their own meetings, wear badges, and pledge themselves to give service to the community in which they live, to respect its citizens, to protect public and private property, to uphold its laws, and proudly to set an example of good citizenship.

With the program of the community councils, the Community Service Division of the Welfare Department is able to help neighborhoods all over the city, and to give those living in them an opportunity to practice a greater degree of self-government within their community.

Opening night at a teen-town center



The Administrative Division of the Welfare Department manages its business affairs and controls finances. This division assists each of the other divisions in carrying out its work.

GOOD NEIGHBORING IN KANSAS CITY

There are groups in Kansas City trying to be "good neighbors" besides the Welfare Department of the city government. Some of these are schools, churches, and clubs. These groups have seen need and tried to relieve it for many years. In pioneer days, when the Town of Kansas was a small village where each person knew all about his neighbors, people shared whatever they had with the unfortunate. They cared for the sick, fed the hungry, and clothed the needy. With the growth of the town into a city, however, some of the opportunities for neighborliness were lost. And when individuals could not know of need and relieve it, organizations stepped in.

The first of these groups, the Provident Association, was organized in 1880. In that year at the invitation of Colonel Theodore Case a group of fifteen citizens met to consider the problems of the less fortunate. Some of these problems arose because the City of Kansas was the gateway through which many travelers passed. Cowboys and cattle drivers were sometimes stranded here. Farm hands drifted to the city in times of failing crops and grasshopper plagues. The care of these people on the move, as well as of the needy already here, was the concern of the Provident Association.

By 1899, there were over twenty private organizations, such as hospitals, orphans' homes, day nurseries, and homes for the aged that had been opened in the city, and the Associated Charities of Kansas City was formed in that year. It was thought that the work of all would not overlap and would be more efficient if it were cleared through this association.

The famous flood of 1903 brought problems of immediate relief to the very doorsteps of Kansas Citians. Distress and dis-

aster came with rising flood waters, and those who had lost their homes had to be fed and clothed. A central committee of church and club members was formed to aid city officials in caring for the flood sufferers, and to save the city from fire and epidemic. The task was so great that it made citizens realize that Kansas City must have some permanent charity council to carry on its social welfare work. For this purpose, the Social Service League was founded in 1919.

By the close of the first World War, Kansas Citians had seen that both world-wide and local charities must have the support of every individual who could help them. The people of war-torn Europe needed relief, and those here in Kansas City needed it, too. The United War Relief and Local Charities campaign was launched to raise \$300,000. Much of this fund was distributed to local organizations. This was Kansas City's first community chest drive, and its citizens realized their responsibilities to the less fortunate by meeting the quota.

In 1921, the Social Service League changed its name to the Council of Social Agencies, and joined with the Chamber of Commerce in sponsoring the community chest drives. The needs of the city for private welfare relief had grown by 1925 to require a budget of \$1,000,000. Twenty years later, this sum had doubled, but nevertheless, Kansas City reached its goal. Over two million dollars were given to seventy-two approved welfare agencies in 1945.

During the worst years of the depression, local private funds were not sufficient to care for the ever-growing numbers of people needing help because of unemployment. In 1932-33, the federal Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC) and the Emergency Relief Committees came to the aid of local charities. Since the passage of the state Social Security law in 1937, the Jackson County Social Security Commission has handled direct relief for the city and the county as well as old age assistance and aid to dependent children. In Jackson County, \$11,000,000 were

spent in 1944 for relief purposes. Some of this amount was used to maintain the McCune Home, the Detention Home, the Parental Home for Girls, and the Jackson County Home for the Aged.

Through the work of the organizations belonging to the Council of Social Agencies, the lives of over fifty per cent of the people in Kansas City are touched in some manner, either through relief, counsel, or recreation. The agencies of the council serve the community in several different ways. These include neighborhood houses where neighbors come with their joys and their sorrows. They also include summer camps where boys and girls may know the fun of outdoor living, and Boy and Girl Scout, Campfire, and Youth Club activities. Child health centers serve as free clinics for raising health standards. Homeless children are cared for in boarding and orphans' homes. Families are advised in time of trouble and given financial aid when it is necessary. Widows and their children are looked after until federal help for them can be secured. Visiting nurses give their services in homes where need is great and those in them cannot pay. Persons who are unable to earn their own way because of old age or physical handicaps are cared for. Through these various types of agencies, a helping hand is extended to those who need it.

There are many instances when it is necessary for the schools to work with the welfare agencies in order to give special help to boys and girls. Teachers sometimes see needs of their students which parents cannot meet. Through the visiting teacher branch of school service, started in 1920, home calls are made and parents contacted. When a child is absent too frequently from school or runs away from home, a visiting teacher calls on his parents, tries to find out why, and help him solve his personal problems. Sometimes a boy or girl needs glasses, but cannot buy them. Sometimes a child stays away from school because he needs warm clothes or shoes. Some children come to school without breakfast or bring no lunch. Some older boys leave school too soon because

they must help support their families. When visiting teachers investigate these cases, they are able to contact the social agencies which can help the children.

A report of one visiting teacher gives a picture of the kind of problem the schools and the welfare agencies work together to solve:

"A visiting teacher was calling at the home of a 'truant.' The records indicated that he, Jackie, was thirteen and enrolled in one of the junior high schools. The visitor was met at the door by a dirty, barefooted, ragged boy who smiled upon him in a bright and friendly manner. Jackie's irregular school attendance was not his greatest trouble. His mother and father were dead and he was being shuttled about, unwanted, from one brother or sister to another. The sister with whom he was staying was working, and her husband was ill. Jackie was trying to care for the two babies in the home, and to do the housework. There he stood in the kitchen, with a broad smile on his face, washing a stack of dishes piled high in the sink.

"After arrangements were made for the care of the little children, Jackie was returned to school. Through the help of an understanding counselor, he was furnished books and given a job in the school cafeteria so that he could have a warm lunch. But that didn't yet take care of Jackie. His sisters and brothers began to resent having to provide for him since they kept him only for the work he did. So Jackie was placed in a foster home. Then he was off to a new start. He went to school regularly and did good work. His progress was watched with understandable pride. Another boy was given his chance to catch up with the other children before it was too late."

Whether it is school, private agency, city, state, or nation, the general welfare of all groups of people as they live together has grown to be the concern of every one. Since what happens to you today depends so closely upon what happens to others, the problems of one group affect the lives of all groups. "For the general welfare" now applies to the well-being of all.



9. A Roof Over Your Head

FROM SHANTY TO SUBURB

The story of a city as told by the houses built within it is one which is open to all to read. Stories in brick and stone may speak of yesterday, today, or tomorrow.

The log cabin on Blue Ridge Boulevard speaks of plantation days when Southerners had settled here. The Harris House in Westport speaks of Santa Fe trading days when a brick house was a mark of distinction. The mansions on Quality Hill still stand as ghostly landmarks of another time, overlooking the bottom lands which produced the wealth that built them. Stately dwellings on Independence Avenue and in the Northeast district flaunt stables, carriage entrances, and bay window conservatories of the horse-and-buggy era. Rows of box-like houses, half-brick, half-frame, tell of a building period in the early 1900's.

Blocks of tall apartment houses proclaim the modern age. Houses of the present time tell a story of individual styles in architecture or the use of designs borrowed from different sections of the country or even from other nations. Cape Cod and Williamsburg Colonials, Monterey porches, Normandy towers, and Old English country houses lend variation to city streets. You will be able to read the story of the future Kansas City in its homes yet to be built. The city grew during the war years and it will continue to grow. More business and more industry will mean more homes, more churches, more schools, and a constant reaching out for better living.

There are many varieties in Kansas City dwellings, as well as many different residential areas. From the tar-paper shacks along the river front to the imposing homes in suburban districts is a study in contrast, yet the city includes such a range. One reason this is true, is because Kansas City grew as a series of real estate developments.

The first of these began with the sale of the land which was the site of the Town of Kansas. It had been purchased in 1832

by Gabriel Prudhomme for \$340, and was known as the Prudhomme Tract. John C. McCoy, a surveyor of Westport, had platted it into twenty-three lots which were first sold at auction in 1883 for \$4,220. Another tract known as Hubbard's Addition was opened up in 1855, and soon many men were buying land at very low prices and selling it at a large profit. In 1856, a Liberty, Missouri, newspaper wrote: "The fools are not all dead. One has just paid \$250 per acre for a cornfield near Kansas City." (The article referred to land between Ninth and Twelfth and Main and McGee Streets.) Farms and homesteads which had been bought for a few dollars an acre were divided into town lots and sold for many times their original value.

This speculation in lots had reached such lengths by 1886 that Kansas City had a realty boom. Lots were bought and sold with the ease of "potatoes and apples," and residential subdivisions sprang up almost overnight. Sometimes lots were sold by ticket and changed hands as many as seven times in a single day. Fortunes in real estate were made and lost.

During the boom years, dealers in town lots were speculating so wildly and frequently misrepresenting the land they were selling that it was necessary to organize the Real Estate Board and Stock Exchange to control improper business practices.

The years brought many new building developments. As Kansas City grew, it spread to the south and east. While the earliest homes were along the river front, those built later stood on the high bluffs through which muddy streets had been cut. The town then extended as far south as Independence Avenue. What is now the heart of the business district was once the location of early homesteads. The Federal Reserve Bank Building stands today upon one of these, on land originally bought for \$450.

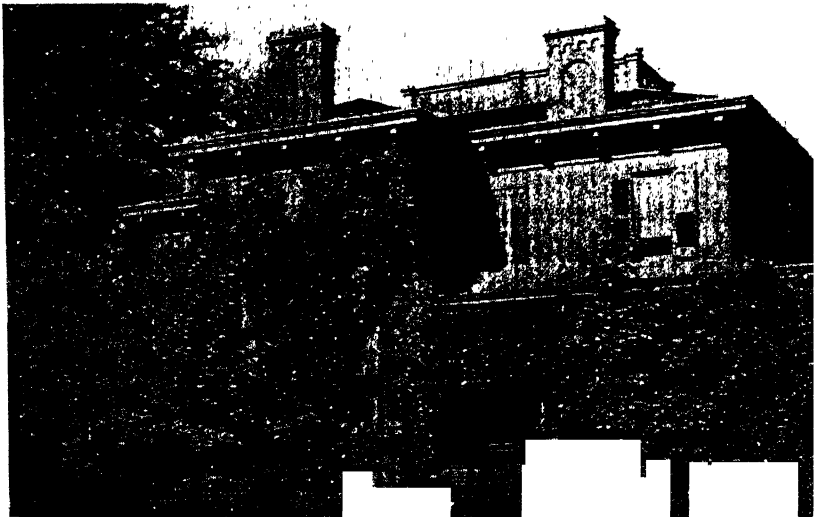
With the growth of trade in the Town of Kansas, its residents prospered and wanted to move their homes to more spacious neighborhoods. By the time the town was incorporated in 1853

as the City of Kansas, its limits extended to Ninth Street and Troost Avenue. Substantial houses were built in this new district and the owners were proud of their well-kept homesites.

However, some citizens, such as Kersey Coates, preferred the bluffs overlooking the Kaw Valley. In 1859, he platted a district and built an elaborate brick mansion there. Nearby he erected a hotel, the famous Coates House, and an opera house. Other prosperous citizens built homes in this west side of the city between Tenth and Sixteenth Streets and Broadway and Pennsylvania. It soon was nicknamed "Quality Hill," and was most fashionable during the 1870's and 1880's. In those years, stove-pipe hats and gay-colored waistcoats mingled with rustling silks and taffeta parasols, adding an air of elegance to the new district of the frontier town. Negro coachmen drove high-stepping horses which pulled fine carriages along its steep hillsides.

In 1886, the peak year of the city's real estate boom, Willard E. Winner, a promoter, organized a company which bought 2,400 acres of land between Kansas City and Independence and sold lots there. This was the beginning of the Intercity district which now includes Mt. Washington, Maywood, Fairmount, and Englewood.

A home on Quality Hill





Typical architecture of a Quality Hill mansion

Some builders felt that the land to the northeast of the city offered choice homesites, and opened real estate developments there. During the 1890's, large homes of brick and stone were built along Independence Boulevard. This avenue had become one of the main streets of the city, extending east to the present city limits, and connecting the downtown district with Independence, Missouri. By 1905, Cliff Drive had been built along the bluffs overlooking the Missouri River Valley. This scenic drive greatly increased the demand for homes in the northeast section of the city, a demand which continued for nearly twenty years.

By 1885, the city limits extended as far south as Thirty-first Street and as far east as Cleveland Avenue. The city continued to expand in these directions and by 1897 had pushed south to Forty-ninth Street and east to Skiles Street. With each extension of the city limits, farm lands were divided into town lots. The homesteads of such pioneers as the Ragans, the Lockridges, the Porters, the Smarts, the Troosts, and others became the busy residential and shopping centers on Armour Boulevard, Prospect and Troost Avenues, and Thirty-first, Thirty-ninth, and Forty-eighth Streets.

The beginning of the twentieth century saw the growth of Armour Boulevard as a fashionable location for the homes of

those wanting to move farther south. Named for the Armour family whose fortune had been made in the meat packing industry, this elm-arched boulevard was the site of many palatial residences. It became a show place for visitors to the city.

At this time, south of the city's Forty-ninth Street boundary, were farm lands, dairies, rock quarries, trash dumps, truck gardens, and hillsides densely covered with underbrush. Far to the south and west were the Ward and Wornall homesteads, built before Civil War days, with their large farmhouses set in the midst of groves of trees. The nearest town to Westport was Dodson, on the main line of the Missouri Pacific Railroad.

A ten-acre tract of land, centering around what is now Fifty-first and Main Streets, had been platted into lots during the real estate boom of the 1880's but no homes had been built upon it. In 1905, however, the tract was purchased by J. C. Nichols, a young man with advanced ideas of city planning. He set out to put these ideas into practice in his own realty development south of Brush Creek, and began the building of what is today the Country Club district. This area has become so well-known as a district of well-planned and beautiful homes that visitors from all over the country and abroad come here to study it.

At the time when Mr. Nichols began to clear the hillsides of underbrush and to lay out homesites, this district was about an hour's drive by horse and buggy from the business section of the city. By 1909, however, the city limits had been extended to Seventy-seventh Street. The young builder went ahead with his plans to create land values, which were to change the direction of the city's growth from the northeast to the south. He built attractive homes in landscaped settings, and beautified the entire district with trees, shrubs, flowers, some of the finest antique outdoor objects of art to be found in the world. These have all been given to the city, and add greatly to the pleasure of living in this area. Soon other tracts had been added to the original one of ten acres, until today there are 5,000 acres in the Country



Modern homes in a residential section

Club district, including forty sub-divisions and ten shopping centers, each with its own type of architecture. The largest and best known of these is the Country Club Plaza of Spanish architecture, developed in 1926, and now numbering over 250 shops and offices.

Through the years of Kansas City's growth, many realtors and individuals built homes for its increasing population. Some of these, such as the homes in the Intercity area, centered around certain industries. Others were built near high schools, such as Central, Paseo, and Southeast. Some neighborhoods grew because of their nearness to churches, synagogues, or convenient shopping centers. Yet these many residential areas form the housing pattern of Kansas City.

Years of constant expansion in home building, however, were followed by a period of steady decline from 1919 to 1945. Few homes were built in these years. In 1942, the Real Estate Board reported an occupancy of ninety-six per cent of all dwellings in the city. Census figures for 1940 showed these conditions existing in Kansas City:

Housing in Kansas City—1940

Kind of dwelling	Total		
Single family units	63,893	or	48%
2-4 family units	27,449	or	20.6%
5 and more family units	41,494	or	31.2%
*Unclassified	331		

Total 133,167

Dwelling units occupied by owner	37,761	or	28.4%
Dwelling units occupied by renters	95,406	or	71.4%
Median value of owner occupied dwellings	\$3,085		
Median rent of tenant occupied dwellings	\$22.70		

*By 1942, the housing shortage was so acute that 9,359 store rooms were occupied as dwellings.

The housing picture of Kansas City today shows that there are three times as many homes in the southwest district as in the east section. Thirty per cent of all single-family residences are in the central and west areas north of Twenty-seventh Street and west of Hardesty. Apartment units of all classes represent more than one-third of all the dwelling units in the city, and one-half of these are south of Twenty-seventh Street.

CONQUERING BLIGHT

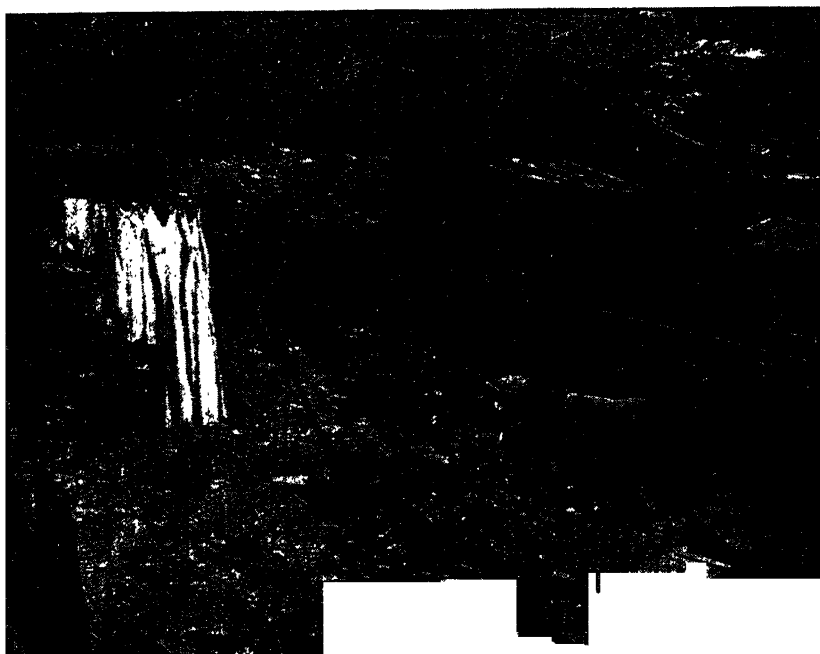
Most American cities suffer from blight. Kansas City is no exception. It, too, has areas where overcrowding, unsanitary plumbing, fire hazards, and filth are common. It, too, has breeding places for disease, juvenile delinquency, and crime. "Living on top of each other" in bad housing conditions creates both individual and community problems. Kansas City not only has blighted areas, but it also faces the problems resulting from them.

The United States Census of 1940 showed that in Kansas City there were nearly seven thousand dwelling units which were overcrowded. This represented 5.8% of all the dwellings in the city. It further showed that 11,000 units needed major

repairs, and nearly 30,000 had no private baths. In many instances, a number of families shared a common bathroom. Companies which service modern conveniences report that today, of Kansas City's 133,000 dwelling units, only about 64% have running water, about 75% are equipped with electric lights, and about 72% have gas. However, about 87% of the units have at least one telephone connection, while there are many that have extensions.

Many of the houses and apartments in Kansas City have been standing over forty years. In fact, 18,300 or about 14%, have been built forty-five years or more. A large number of these dwellings were originally built as homes for single families. These dwellings were later converted into kitchenettes or small apartments when people moved away from them into newer residential districts. With this change came the problems of overcrowding, sanitation, and fire hazards. Although fire inspections were made frequently in these areas, yet disastrous fires some-

A back yard in a blighted area



Inside a
home in
the slums



took the lives of children and adults making their homes in the old houses. And, too, because of age, it is difficult to keep these dwellings clean and in good repair.

A city-wide picture of housing conditions in the various districts of Kansas City reveals many interesting comparisons.

The housing survey shows that most of the overcrowding occurs in the downtown district and on the West Side. It has been estimated that over 55,000 of the city's total population of 460,000 live within three-fourths of a mile of the City Hall. This is very surprising when one considers that Kansas City, including its outlying districts, covers so many square miles.

Even as the pioneers who settled in Westport and the Town of Kansas faced the frontiers of a wilderness to be conquered, so do Kansas Citians today face the challenge of the city's modern frontiers, the correction of its blighted areas. Yet before

Kansas City Housing Conditions by Areas—1940 Census

Name and boundaries of Areas	Dwellings	Per Cent Occupied	Number Over-Crowded	Number Sub-Stand.	Age No. over 40 years	Median Rent
Northwest						
South to 31st	40,487	87%	4,187	18,764	12,668	\$17
West of Prospect						
Northeast						
South to 31st	20,628	93.5%	1,091	7,940	3,567	\$19
East of Prospect						
West Central						
31st to 47th	21,134	91.3%	835	3,209	1,278	\$37
West of Troost						
East Central						
31st to 47th	19,220	94%	536	3,707	697	\$28
East of Troost						
Southwest						
South of 47th	12,416	93.5%	96	328	35	\$60
West of Troost						
Southeast						
South of 47th	11,272	96%	212	1,626	54	\$30
East of Troost						

any steps can be taken to provide a remedy for them, the causes for their growth must first be understood.

As realty developments followed one another in the city's history, there was much land speculation. The building of new subdivisions caused property values in old districts to slump. There have been times, too, when wages have been very low, and people unable to pay high rents were forced to accept undesirable housing conditions. During times of business depression, banks and investment companies were unwilling to lend money at low interest rates. For those people who wished to build homes of their own, interest rates were so high that they dared not take the risks. Another reason for the presence of blighted areas is that Kansas City, as a city, did not plan for its growth in population, but grew in several directions without thought of the future.

Besides being unsightly, areas where bad housing exists are very costly. Bad housing touches the health, the safety, and the pocketbook of every individual in Kansas City. Crime records are high where there are overcrowded living quarters and no parks or playgrounds near the blighted areas. It costs the city a large amount of tax money to furnish the extra health and police services needed in such areas to care for and keep disease and crime from spreading. Fire protection and social work also cost more in such areas.

American people pride themselves on being business-like, but only in the last few years have they realized fully that bad housing is expensive. One startling fact which helped to bring this to their attention was that the beginnings of two nationwide epidemics of poliomyelitis have been traced directly to the slum areas of one town. Although they occurred fifteen years apart, health authorities found that the second epidemic started in the same block as the first.

As early as 1912, a group of housing authorities agreed upon

a set of requirements which they believed every dwelling should meet:

1. the home should be in safe and clean surroundings
2. inside of the home there should be running water and a bathroom
3. the rooms should be arranged in order to have proper ventilation, good lighting, and privacy.

Today it is estimated that one-third of all American homes are below the standard set in 1912. In Kansas City, this same condition is true of dwellings measured both by the 1912 standards and by modern ones for satisfactory living.

Under pressure of the depression days of the 1930's, the Public Works Administration of the United States government tried to meet the crying need for low-cost housing. Fifty housing projects throughout the country were erected at a cost of \$130,000,000. A three-and-one-half room apartment in these buildings rented for \$17.50. Kansas City's housing shortage was not helped during the depression years, however, for the city administration at that time stated that "no slums exist in Kansas City," and turned down federal aid for slum clearance.

The housing shortage became more acute than ever during World War II, with the coming of thousands of workers to defense plants in Kansas City. The Wagner-Steagall Housing Act, passed by the federal government in 1937, had put public housing back into the lap of local communities with the following pattern of procedure:

1. a committee of local citizens is selected to plan and supervise housing developments; this is known as the housing authority
2. the housing authority works like a business company, but is controlled by the community
3. the authority borrows 90% of the amount from the federal government that it wishes to invest in low-rent housing;

the remaining 10% is raised by the authority by borrowing from a bank or by selling bonds

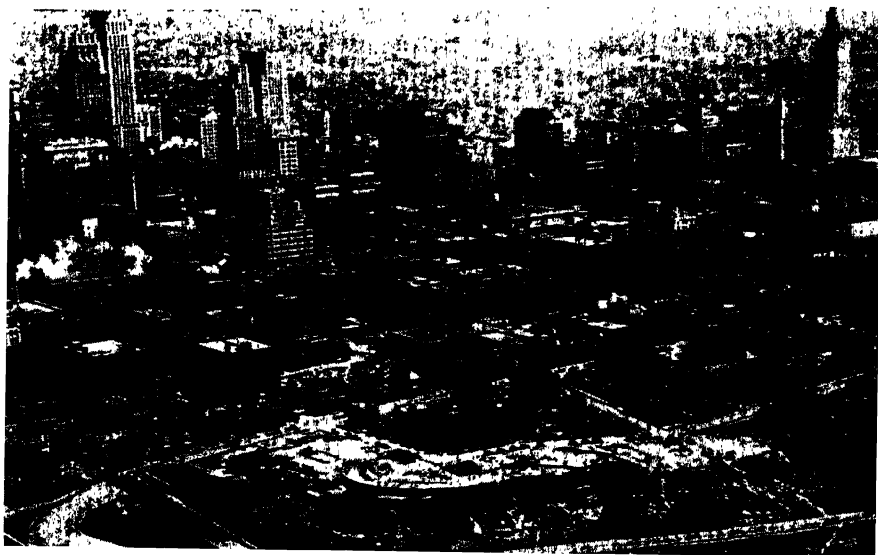
4. rent is used to repay the government loan and low interest charges

5. the community may exempt the housing projects from taxes in order to keep rents low.

In order for these low-rent housing projects to be started, the blighted areas must be condemned. This has been made possible in Kansas City under a charter amendment, voted in 1944, giving the city the authority to condemn blighted areas and sell land for private development. Today two such projects have already been planned by the Kansas City housing authority to be built at a cost of \$4,500,000. Four hundred and one units are to be erected for white people on ground between Thirteenth and Seventeenth Streets and Summit to West Terrace Park. The other project of three hundred and forty units for Negroes, is to be built between Twelfth and Fourteenth Streets from Paseo to Woodland.

These projects are Kansas City's first step in its plans to stop the spread of the disease of city blight. While some dwell-

A park and playground for Quality Hill



ings may need to be entirely demolished, there are others which could be rehabilitated and made into comfortable homes. By redeveloping a few blocks of slum areas at a time and setting up a whole community of good living quarters, the city will be finding an answer to one of its greatest problems.

SOLVING A HOUSING SHORTAGE

Low-rent housing projects are, however, far from a complete answer to the appalling need for homes which faced the nation and Kansas City during and after World War II. This need extended over far more than the housing developments in the blighted areas, and included those of higher rentals and sales value throughout various sections of the city. To meet the housing shortage during the war years, builders were given permission by the federal government to construct single dwellings, duplexes, and multiple-dwelling units, as well as to finish apartment houses begun before the war. Some of the single dwellings were offered for sale, while the multiple units were for rent at Office of Price Administration (O. P. A.) ceilings. At first, these units could be occupied only by defense workers, but with the close of the war they were made available to the general public.

Housing projects were started in many sections of Greater Kansas City, ranging from Quindaro Gardens, built in the Fairfax district as homes for workers in the North American bomber plant, to President Gardens, the extensive development south of

President Gardens—a housing development of over 400 units



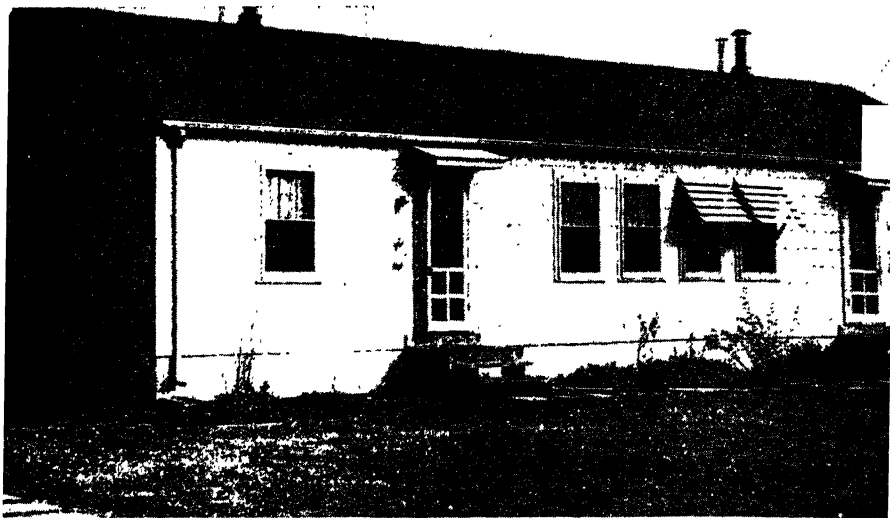


Two-family homes in a suburban development

the city for housing workers at the Pratt-Whitney engine plant. They included not only dwellings, but planned shopping centers, parking space, central heating systems, landscaping, and playgrounds. In various sections of the city other units were erected, such as Victory and Colonial Courts in the Plaza district, duplexes on Holmes and Wyandotte Streets, single-family units on Linwood Boulevard, and homes for Negroes on Vine Street and Paseo. Yet even with the addition of all of these dwelling units, only one short step had been taken to meet the great need for housing.

The need for more homes had arisen because of inadequate housing before the war, a population increase of about 30,000 in Greater Kansas City during the war years, little wartime building, a high wartime marriage rate, and the return of veterans anxious to establish homes of their own. There was also an acute shortage of building materials and of man power at this time, and the cost of building a house was much too high for the average citizen.

Both individuals and realty companies tried to secure the



A pre-fabricated house

release of building materials in order that they might supply the urgent demand for homes. The city government named several committees to investigate ways and means of relief. An Emergency Housing Committee was appointed to study the housing shortage. They assisted in the plans of private owners for converting homes into duplexes or apartments, stimulated the building of new homes through the release of essential materials, and brought to Kansas City pre-fabricated, demountable units which had been used as barracks in army camps or defense centers. The municipal government declared itself willing to furnish light, water, and gas connections when these homes were set up, as well as locations for them.

The Kansas City Housing Authority was another agency whose purpose was to aid in meeting the housing problems through its program of redeveloping blighted areas. A Veterans' Housing committee was organized to help the returning veterans find living quarters. The situation was so critical in February, 1946, that a business firm ran the following advertisement in the Kansas City Times:



Trailer camp homes

A Plain Duty Faces All the People of This City

A plain duty faces all the people of this city. Thousands of our own citizens went away to fight our battles. Now they are coming back. Many of them are newly married. Others have families living with the in-laws. They come home to discover that in their absence other people have taken up all the available housing space, even to the attic and basement apartments.

Is it too much to ask every citizen of Kansas City to consider every possibility for taking them in? If they had not gone away to war the chances are they would be established as snugly as tens of thousands of us who stayed at home.

From Kansas City Star Editorial Feb. 1.

Share Your Home With a Veteran

Perhaps you have an extra room or extra rooms you would rent. If so you can be of great help during this crisis. Call the Veterans Housing committee at 917 Baltimore, VI. 0458.

While some of these committees were active only during the housing crisis, a city plan commission, responsible to the mayor and the city council, works permanently studying the needs of the entire city. The commission makes master plans for the city's growth so that older neighborhoods may be conserved and blight eliminated. It also designs new neighborhoods, parks, playgrounds, trafficways, and shopping centers so that all may be located to the advantage of the greatest number of people. Pro-

viding pleasant and safe surroundings for Kansas City's homes is the chief concern of the commission.

In order to encourage the average citizen of moderate income to own his own home, and thus become part of a permanent community, the federal government has plans for financing home ownership. The Federal Housing Administration (F. H. A.) and the Home Owners Loan Corporation (H. O. L. C.) were organized to insure loans at low interest rates to those wanting to buy homes. These loans are also used to modernize old residences. The amount loaned to buy a new home, however, cannot exceed 90% of its cost, nor should the cost of the home be more than twice the amount of the owner's annual income. Taxes and fire insurance are included in the monthly payments of FHA and HOLC loans, as well as amounts for principal and interest.

The problem of the housing shortage may not be solved for many years. With present building methods calling for nearly twenty kinds of workmen to construct a single house, and with shortages of materials and skilled labor, there can be no rapid change in the housing situation. Some experts, however, recommend that houses no longer be hand-built, but that assembly-line methods of production be applied to the manufacture of prefabricated dwellings. If this change in building methods is not brought about, and the building industry modernized to meet the country's need, then housing may become another responsibility for the local, state, and federal governments to assume.

BUILDING CODES AND ZONING LAWS

When pioneers built cabins in clearings along the Little Blue or the banks of the Kaw, their first concern was to provide shelter for their families. The head of each family erected his log house according to his own plans. He could place it anywhere he chose on the site he had cleared, and use any kind of timber at hand. He alone decided whether to have openings for windows, and whether the floor was to be of earth or covered with puncheons.

He was free to carry out his own ideas about the height of his chimney, the size of his joists, or whether his roof would be made of sod or "shakes." Each pioneer made his own building code.

But the builder today, in this same community, must meet the requirements of a building code set up for him by the city government. He must place his home so many feet from the street and build it of materials approved by the code. He must provide adequate ventilation and enough exits for safety in case of fire. He must reinforce his walls and floors to withstand weight and pressure. His building must pass a fire inspection. The builder today must fulfill every requirement of the Building Code in order to protect both himself and his community.

Many years passed in the growth of Kansas City before the need for a building code was realized. An act of the Missouri legislature had given the city permission in 1867 to plan such a code and by 1878 building permits were required. But it was not until 1890 that a code regulating the construction and inspection of buildings was drafted. By this time, hundreds of small frame dwellings had been built, and placed along whatever trail or path was nearby. Builders had been able to put up any kind of structure wherever they owned land. Houses which were fire traps could be built without fear of city inspection. Stables and barns with lofts filled with hay were unsightly and fire hazards as well. It was apparent that the city needed building regulations both for the health and the safety of its people.

There have been three revisions of the building code to meet the growth of the city. The present one regulates not only the construction of private dwellings, but of public buildings as well. Building permits are required before any structure can be erected. Buildings under construction are inspected for the safety of their electricity, plumbing, exits, quality and weight of building materials, protection of walls and vertical openings, excavations and foundations, and chimneys, flues, heating and ventilating apparatus.

The entire purpose of the building code is stated in the introduction to the ordinance of 1927: "Regulating the construction, erection, maintenance, alteration, repairing, remodeling, rebuilding, securing, moving, and shoring and the inspection of buildings and structures in Kansas City, and regulating the installation and use of plumbing, heating apparatus, boilers, means of vertical transportation and electrical wiring and appliances, and providing a penalty for any violation thereof." You and your home are protected through the enforcement of this ordinance. Standards of strength, safety, sanitation, and fire resistance must be met by the builder of the home in which you live.

The value of your home is also protected by law. This protection comes from a zoning ordinance which divides the city into districts. These districts are set up according to the use to which the property in them may be put rather than as geographical sections. They include areas for dwelling houses, apartments, retail business, light manufacturing, heavy manufacturing or industrial areas, unrestricted, and special sections.

The term "zoning" is applied to any plan of regulating the height, size, and use of all new buildings, or the alteration of old buildings within a city. Its purpose is to control the character and extent of the city's growth. Without the protection of zoning, the man who builds a home has no assurance that its value will not be greatly lowered by the erection of a store or other business buildings next door. If, however, a store, filling station, or factory had been built in your neighborhood before zoning laws were passed, it would be allowed to remain. Zoning laws can only direct future development or redevelopment of any district. These laws are made for the health, safety, morals, convenience, and general welfare of the public.

Zoning ordinances came late in the development of cities. Much of Kansas City had been built before a zoning law was passed in 1923. Districts built up before then could not know the benefits of zoning, but those planned since then or to be



A city street without zoning

opened in the future can assure the home owners within them that their property values will be protected. The latest revision of the zoning ordinance came in 1941.

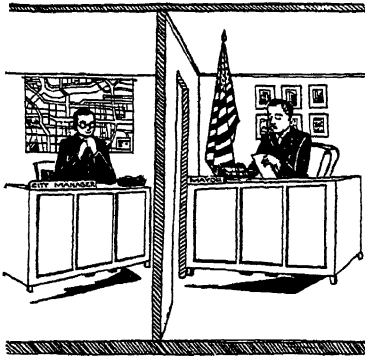
For homes built outside of the city limits, however, little zoning protection is given. These homes may be close to sections of small dwellings that have been hastily erected in a mushroom manner without much thought for their own permanence or the future growth of the city. These Mushroom Manors, or jerry-built real estate developments, do not always have modern improvements, and are sometimes more similar to poor farm homes than they are to desirable city dwellings. They add neither to the attractiveness of Kansas City nor to its tax income. Yet they are near enough to the city itself to add to its housing problems.

How to get a roof over his head has always been one of the chief concerns of mankind. Today it is among the greatest problems that the city and the nation face.



Part **3** How Your Community is Organized To Serve You

10. The City Manager Plan
11. Contact! Township and County
12. Contact! State, Nation, and World
13. Pick Your Candidate



10. The City Manager Plan

ATTENDING A COUNCIL MEETING

Craig Wellman, high school junior, crossed his long legs, slouched lower in his seat, and propped his knees against the chair in front of him. He was ready for the city council meeting to begin. Martha Lathrop and Jane Stephenson sat beside him, with pencils poised and notebooks open. All three students from the government class wanted to see in action the group of men who governed their city, and were prepared to take notes on the order of business.

"Oh, I see the mayor!" exclaimed Martha as she squirmed and twisted in her seat to see over the hat of the woman in front of her. She scanned the men at their desks beyond the rail which separated the council from the visitors in the spacious meeting room.

"How do you know which one he is?" Jane asked her friend.

"Well, haven't you seen his picture often enough in the newspapers?" Craig countered in disgust.

"What are those mere children doing, sitting up there beside the councilmen? How do they rate that?" Jane asked.

"That looks like a seventh grader talking to the mayor," Martha remarked. "Isn't she cute? Who do you suppose she is?"

"She's my daughter," the woman sitting in front of her turned and answered proudly. "She's the mayor of her school city." Then the mother explained to the students that one of the elementary schools in the city was organized as a city, having its own mayor, city manager, councilmen, and commissioners. She also said that the entire group were the guests of the council that night, and were seated at the desks of the corresponding officials in city government. The children were there to see how to pattern their student meetings after the council meetings.

As the hands of the clock on the wall pointed to eight, the mayor rapped the gavel soundly three times and immediately the room became quiet. The voice of the city clerk droned the roll call as the meeting began.

Visitors had been provided with a printed copy of the council docket, and were able to follow the reading of each proposed ordinance. The high school students were pleased that they were familiar with the terms "first, second, and third" readings that must be given an ordinance before it can become a law. Roll call for voting was taken so quickly that the visitors had to watch the docket closely in order to follow the order of business. All listened to the clipped "ayes" of the councilmen which told the city clerk the record of their voting, and at first were surprised at how fast the ordinances were passed until they read the words "committee recommends do pass."

"Write down what they do with each ordinance," Craig whispered to Martha, and she noted on the margin of the docket below the following action that was taken.

Council Docket

Kansas City, Missouri

March 11, 1946

9881. Report of the Commissioner of Purchases and Supplies reporting emergency purchases for week ending March 9, 1946. (Accepted)

Third Readings:

9861. To vacate the alley between Holmes Street and Charlotte Street from the S/L of 16th Street to the H/L of 17th Street. Committee recommends "do pass." (Passed.)

Second Readings:

9871. Granting permission to Commerce Trust Co. to erect and maintain two 10-inch steel pipes over the alleyway between the Commerce Trust Co. building and the Commerce Trust Garage Building. Committee recommends "do pass." (Third reading waived. Passed.)
9873. Granting permission to R. N. Shaw to install gasoline tanks and to operate a filling station at 312-324 East 25th Street. Committee recommends "do pass." (Third reading waived. Passed.)



A meeting of the City Council

9874. Transf. \$500.00 (amended \$900.00) from acct. No. 1-1670-A, Veterans Emergency Housing (Personal Service) to Acct. No. 1-1670-B, Veterans' Emergency Housing. Committee recommends "do pass." (Moved to third reading.)

First Readings: Councilman Nolan—By Request

9885. Granting permission to Kansas City Public Service Co., its successors and assigns, to construct and maintain a switch track across both 42nd Street and Wornall Road, from the north line of 42nd Street in a southeasterly direction to a point in the easterly line of Wornall Road 438 feet north of 43rd Street, in Kansas City, Missouri. (Moved to second reading.)
Councilman Scott—By Request

9887. Authorize the City Manager in behalf of Kansas City

to enter into a contract with the Federal Public Housing authority for housing facilities pursuant to a project described as Project No. MO-V-23097, approp. \$166,300.00 out of the Revolving Public Improvement Fund to said purpose, and declaring an emergency. (No action taken until after further study.)

After the business on the docket was finished, the mayor introduced the junior mayor and city manager from the elementary school, and the councilmen presented their young assistants for that night. When the meeting was adjourned, the three students went up to speak to the councilman from their district, and then shook hands with the new candidate for mayor.

Craig turned to the girls and remarked as they walked to the elevator, "This is the best homework assignment I've had in a long time. Seeing how city government works is interesting. It's almost like watching a play."

Jane chimed in, "Yes, I wasn't bored at all—and I surely expected to be. After this, I'll know what the books are talking about when they describe a city council meeting. And who knows? I might be councilwoman from your district some day."

Giving Jane a withering look, Martha, who until this moment had been very quiet, now said, "I'm wondering whether Kansas City was always governed this way."

"Ah, the Brain speaks," Craig teased. "Just wait till tomorrow, my friend, and we'll take that little matter up in class. That's the place to get the story behind the story of city government."

THE STORY OF KANSAS CITY'S CHARTERS

In order to carry on the business of the growing frontier settlement, citizens of the Town of Kansas had to obtain permission from the state to become "incorporated." Under a Missouri law passed in 1845, two-thirds of the property-owning citizens of a community could petition a county court to give this permission. Settlers here signed such a petition, and presented it

to the Jackson County court. When the consent of the court was granted in 1850, the Town of Kansas was then fully incorporated and given the right to handle its business affairs. For the next three years, the town was governed by a board of trustees appointed by the court.

An assessor, a collector, and a constable were the only officers necessary at that time, and these were appointed by the board. By 1852, however, an incident occurred which showed that city officers needed to know more clearly just how far their powers extended. In that year, the constable in the Town of Kansas arrested a man who had committed some trivial offense. The man was brought to trial before city officials. It was found that these had been appointed to serve in the neighboring county, and were six miles outside their own territory. After this had happened, the town saw the need for a different type of government, and petitioned the state legislature for a charter. This was granted under a special act and in 1853, the Town of Kansas became the City of Kansas with its own charter or constitution. The new government was then under the direction of a mayor and a one-house council of six representatives from city districts.

Kansas City's first charter was borrowed almost entirely from the St. Joseph, Missouri, charter. Article II of the charter of the City of Kansas stated this fact:

"Sec. 1. The second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth sections of an act entitled, 'An Act to Incorporate the City of St. Joseph,' approved February 22, 1851, shall be applicable to, and shall be in full force and effect in the City of Kansas, except as hereinafter provided, and except that whenever in said act, the word 'St. Joseph' occurs, the word 'Kansas' shall be substituted in lieu thereof, and whenever the word 'Buchanan' occurs in said act, the word 'Jackson' shall be used in lieu thereof, and whenever the word 'Washington' occurs in said act, the word 'Kaw' (township) shall be used in lieu thereof."

By 1859, those in charge of the city government realized there

was need for improvement in the original charter, and amended it to provide for two law-making houses, or a bicameral legislature patterned after the federal government. There were six district representatives in each. Through this amendment to the charter, the city was allowed in some instances to regulate industry and trade. The city then had the right to fix the weight, quality, and price of bread sold and used within its limits, as well as the size of bricks used in building. Other amendments to the city charter were granted from time to time by the state legislature, until in 1875, it passed a law providing "home rule" government to cities having 100,000 or more inhabitants. Missouri was the first state to pass such a law.

"Home rule" for a city meant that no longer would its citizens and officials be required to seek special permission from the state legislature whenever they wished to make a change in city government. For over twenty years, whenever the City of Kansas had wished to tax its citizens for needed improvements, to protect the city's property through zoning restrictions, or to provide for public transportation, its hands were tied until the state legislature approved. Under "home rule" a new charter could be drawn up by a committee of thirteen "freeholders," or property owners, and submitted to a vote of the citizens. If a majority voted in favor of it, the charter was put into effect without consulting the state legislature.

The census of 1880 showed the City of Kansas with a population of 55,785. Seven years later, however, it was estimated that there were about 125,000 people living here, and "home rule" government then became a possibility. An attempt was made in 1887 to adopt a "home rule" charter, but it failed, due to lack of public interest and the opposition of organized labor. However, such a charter was adopted in 1889. Under the new charter, the City of Kansas became Kansas City and was free to make its own laws or city ordinances. The number of city officials was increased, and boards of public works and park com-

missioners were added. The mayor, with the approval of the upper house of the council, had the power to appoint the city clerk, assessor, comptroller, counselor, the fire chief and his two assistants, and the city physician. The people elected the city auditor, treasurer, and attorney.

No attempt was made to revise the charter of 1889 for fifteen years. An ordinance providing for a board of "freeholders" to draw up a new charter was passed by the council in 1904. When the charter which the committee framed was submitted to a vote of the people, however, it failed to pass. Politicians feared its provisions for civil service in appointing city employees, while other groups did not approve measures which they thought might be harmful to them.

It was not until 1908 that a new charter was adopted in Kansas City which included some provision for civil service in city government. The mayor could then appoint a board of civil service commissioners, as well as a hospital and health board, fire and water commissioners, and a board of public works. Under the charter, a judge of the municipal court was elected by the people.

For some years cities had felt the need for a type of government run more like a business firm. As early as 1908, Staunton, Virginia, had tried a plan where city employees were directly responsible to a city manager rather than to the people who had elected them or to the political group responsible for securing their jobs. Because the experiment was tried in such a small city, it received little attention. Later, in 1914, a group of business men in Dayton, Ohio, led a movement to put Staunton's city-manager plan into effect there. Other cities watched these developments with interest. By 1916, Kansas City went so far as to frame a new charter providing for the city-manager plan, but it was defeated by as few as sixty-one votes.

Groups of interested citizens, such as those belonging to the Citizen's League, the Kansas City Public Service Institute, and

the Chamber of Commerce, kept alive the desire for a more business-like government. However, the public was slow to adopt the idea. The variety of their attitudes is reflected in these opinions quoted from a Citizen's League Bulletin of 1921:

"Suppose the old charter does allow many unnecessary jobs; the boys need 'em."

"We certainly need something; perhaps it's a new charter and I'll sign up."

"A new charter means more taxes; we've got too many now."

"I'll sign it, but I don't know what I'm doing it for. I signed thirteen petitions the other day but I don't know what they were for."

"Yes, I'll sign for a new charter; things can't be worse."

"I don't care anything about the charter—officers are all grafters. If you put another set in, they will be just as bad."

"Yes, I'll sign; I'm for anything for the good of Kansas City."

After several attempts to frame and adopt a new form of city government, a vote for a manager charter finally succeeded in November, 1925. The following April, Kansas City put into operation the council-manager plan which is used today.

Before the 1925 charter was adopted, the mayor was the administrative head of the government. There were two houses in the council over which the mayor presided. Boards and commissioners worked independently in controlling the affairs of the different departments. It was very difficult to get things done without a strong central authority, for the mayor lacked the power needed to direct the departments. Under the new charter, however, the city council became the head of the government, and was once again a unicameral or one-house law-making body composed of district representatives. The mayor became the presiding officer of the council, and the city manager was now its chief administrative or business head.

THE CITY COUNCIL—HEAD OF THE GOVERNMENT

Your city council is composed of the mayor and eight councilmen. Four of these are elected from districts of fairly equal population, while the other four are chosen at large but live in each of the four councilmen's districts. The reason some councilmen are elected at large is because they are expected to place the needs of the entire city above the special ones of the four districts electing their own councilmen. Since 1940, all councilmen serve for a term of two years.

Members of the council are nominated by petitions started and signed by the voters. There must be at least 1,000 names on a petition to nominate a candidate for mayor on a primary ballot. To nominate councilmen-at-large, 500 signers are needed, 300 for the district councilmen, and 500 for the judge of the municipal court. The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes on their party tickets at the primary election have their names placed on the ballot for the regular election some three weeks later.

Candidates for councilmen must meet certain requirements. They must be qualified voters at least twenty-five years of age, must have lived in the city five years, in their district six months, and must have paid their city and county taxes for the two years preceding the election. Various types of men seek the office of councilman. There are those who at one time were precinct captains and are willing to take orders. There are those wanting to guard the interests of businessmen and heavy tax-payers. There are those interested in controlling zoning, franchises, permits, and contracts in order to benefit personally. There are young men ambitious for higher office who want council experience. Last, and too often least, there are public-spirited citizens anxious to serve their community.

All the powers of city government are centered in the council. It fixes taxes, orders improvements, passes ordinances, adopts an annual budget, decides the policy of city government,



Citizens at a public hearing before a City Council committee

appoints an auditor, city clerk, and city manager, and exercises all powers granted it by the charter. The city council holds its meetings every Monday evening in the council room on the twenty-sixth floor of the City Hall. Each council member has his own desk, and these are grouped around that of the mayor, who presides at the meeting.

When the council is in session, it follows a set procedure in passing ordinances or city laws. An ordinance is first introduced by a member, its number and title read by the clerk, and the ordinance is then sent to a committee. After a public hearing and a discussion by the committee, it is reported back to the council with recommendations of the committee and read again by its title. Then the ordinance is read a third time by its title, voted on, discussed, and if passed, handed to the mayor for his signature.

All proposed ordinances after introduction are first referred to committees in order that they may be granted a public hearing, studied, and a decision reached as to what action should be taken on them. Because the council feels that committee members have studied the problems and are informed about them, it generally accepts the recommendations of the committees.

If two political parties are represented in the council, each group may meet separately in "caucus," or secret session, and reach a decision as to how to vote. However, any council member may propose an amendment to an ordinance in the general council session, after it has been reported out of committee.

The mayor of Kansas City is the official head of the government. Besides being a member and the presiding officer of the council, he represents the city at important meetings or occasions, such as the opening of conventions, the greeting of distinguished visitors, and the entertaining of city guests. Legal notices served on the city are always served on the mayor. While the mayor has a vote in the city council and can request that ordinances be reconsidered or rejected, yet he has no power of veto.

The members of nine boards and commissions serving the city without salary are appointed by the mayor. Four of these are governing bodies: the Personnel Board, the City Plan Commission, the Board of Zoning Adjustments, and the Board of Park Commissioners. Five are advisory boards: the Public Recreation Advisory Board, the Aviation Advisory Board, Auditorium Advisory Board, the Municipal Art Commission, and the Board of Trustees of City Trusts. The mayor serves as chairman of the last two boards.

WHAT THE CITY MANAGER DOES

The city manager sees to it that all orders of the council are carried out. He is employed by the council and is directly responsible to it. He is the city's chief administrator, and serves as long as his work is satisfactory. The council may remove the city manager at any time, but if it does so, he has the right to a public hearing. He is entitled to a seat in the council, but he has no vote.

The duties and responsibilities of the city manager are many and varied:

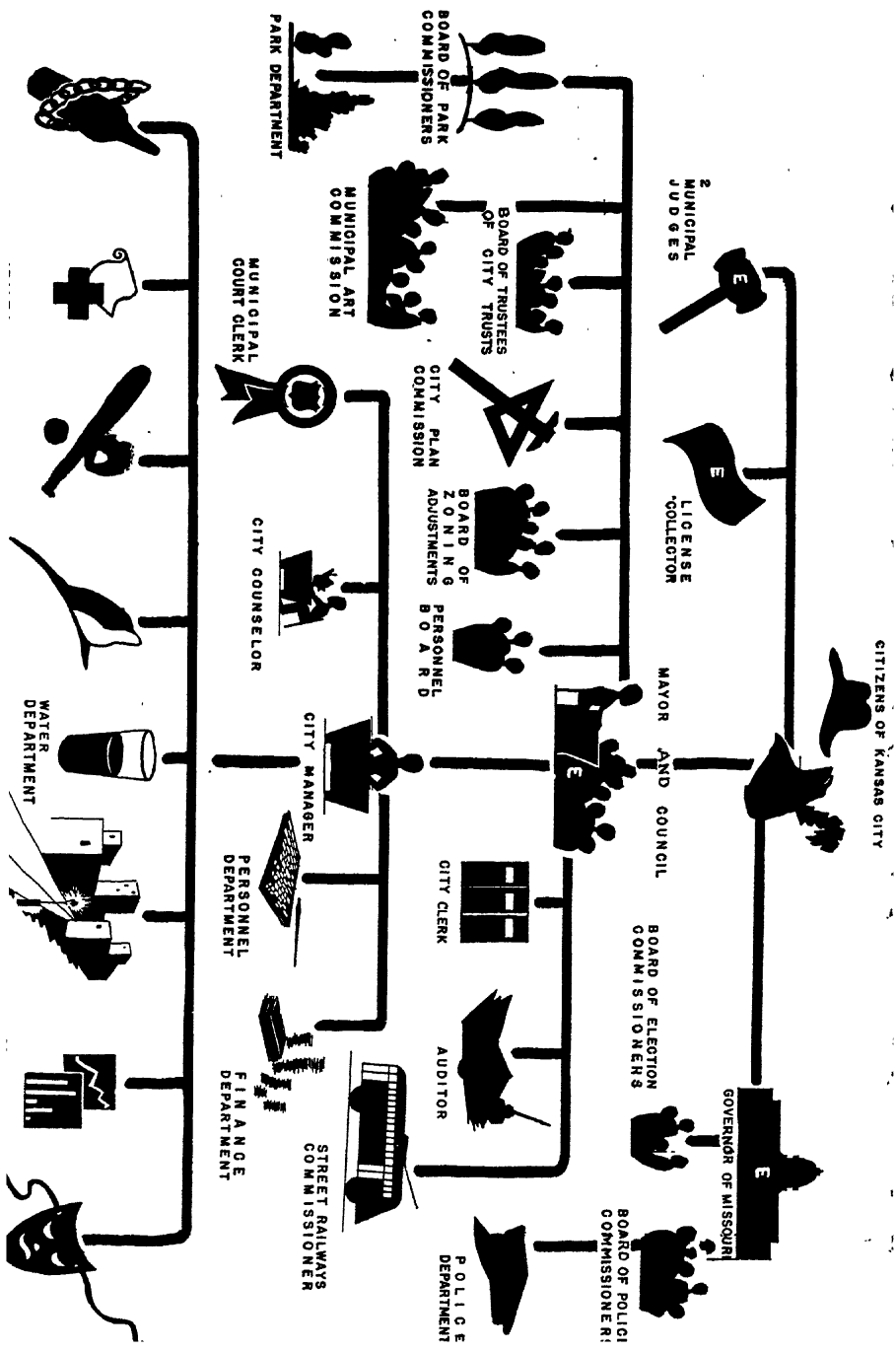
- (1) he sees that the ordinances of the city are enforced

- (2) he makes recommendations to the council
- (3) he advises the council of the city's financial condition and needs
- (4) he submits reports to the council as it may require
- (5) he is responsible for all the administrative work under his charge
- (6) he is responsible for appointing twelve department heads and also controls personnel activities
- (7) he recommends the budget for all departments and agencies whether under his control or not, and thus the responsibility for carrying out the policies of the council is concentrated in one place.

When employing a city manager, the council considers whether or not he is a man well-trained in the business of governing a city. He should be honest and forceful, as well as systematic and able to plan for the future. He also needs a sense of humor to carry him through trying problems. But most important of all must be his loyalty to the interests of the city. Today the position of city manager has become a career, especially since there is no definite term of office.

The council-manager plan has both its strengths and its weaknesses. The chief arguments in favor of it are that it is the most businesslike of all forms of municipal government, it separates city business affairs from politics, and it places the work of all city departments under one head. It thus becomes easier to check on the work of all employees. The council-manager plan is made more efficient because employees are hired under the merit rather than the spoils system. Those best able to do a job are chosen after passing examinations instead of being "friends" of someone in office at the City Hall.

Reporting all activities of city government to the general public is an obligation under the provision of the city-manager charter. Under a good government, it is both fair and democratic to make a report to the people of its organization, accomplish-



ments, and financial condition. Such a report has been published in full each year since 1941. While under the old system reports of such officials as the comptroller, the city engineer, the water commissioner, and others were made to the mayor and the council each year, the present-day reports include those of all departments of the city government. They are the first complete reports since the one printed in 1883. The present reports are published in illustrated pamphlet form for any interested citizen to read, and give a clear picture of the activities of the city government to the general public.

The chief weakness of the council-manager plan in Kansas City was that the council could be controlled by an inner political group. The group selected a manager who placed its interests above those of the city, for in his own words, his interest was in the maintenance and strengthening of the party organization. The city council was soon under the control of a party leader. Many of the provisions of the city charter were ignored. The government of Kansas City was just as inefficient after it adopted the council-manager plan as it had been before. This proved that men in office who feel a keen sense of civic responsibility are just as important to good government as a carefully designed plan. It takes sincere men to make an honest government.

In the spring of 1939, following an election which once again kept the political group in power, Kansas Citizens who favored good government became aroused and formed a Charter Party. This party carried the city election in 1940, and the council-manager plan was given a second chance to prove its worth. By reading any one of the annual reports of the city published since 1941, an interested citizen can see that the council-manager plan of government is working effectively in Kansas City. This plan can continue to succeed as long as the council and the city manager work in complete harmony for the best interests of

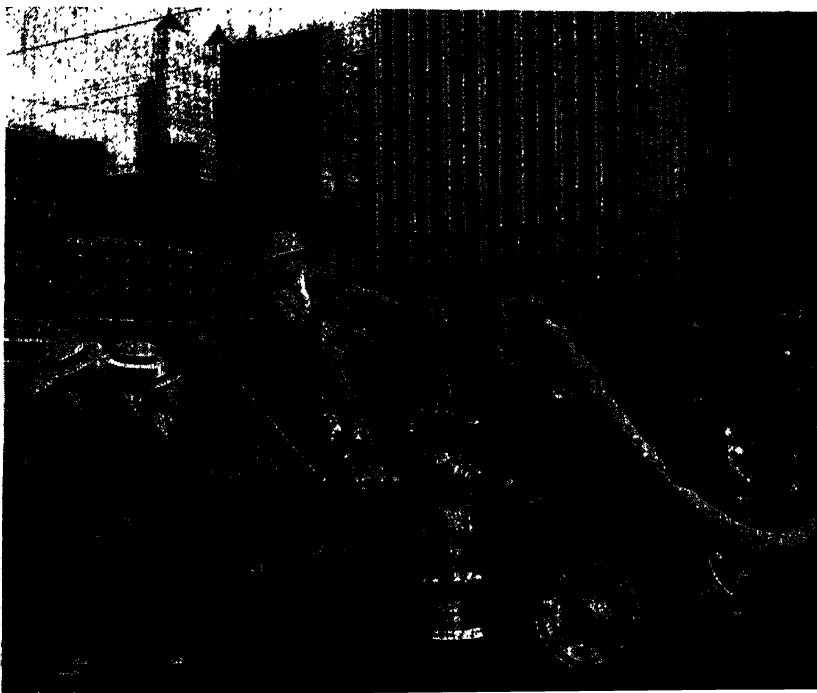
the city, and too much power is not sought by the administrative head of the government.

CITY DEPARTMENTS

Your city government is operated by different departments, each of which is under the control of a director. The work of these departments is handled by divisions whose heads are called commissioners. Each of the departments is responsible to the city manager.

The city counselor is its lawyer and represents the city in all matters of law. The Public Works Department has charge of the construction and maintenance of all municipal buildings, streets, and sewers, together with the municipal airports. It also regulates and inspects the construction of new buildings, sanitary and safety equipment, and boilers. It checks smoke nuisances, controls the collection and disposal of garbage, the lighting of public grounds and streets, and the maintenance of

Trying out a new street cleaning machine



bridges. The Health Department has charge of hospitals, control of communicable diseases, and health education. The Water Department operates the waterworks system. The Finance Department keeps the city's books and its money, buys all supplies, assesses and collects taxes, and issues all licenses. The Personnel Department classifies city positions, holds examinations for filling them, notifies those who have passed such examinations for appointment to these positions, and controls all matters concerning the qualification of city employees for their jobs. The director of the Municipal Auditorium is responsible for its operation and management. The Fire Department has charge of preventing and putting out fires. The Welfare Department controls and provides for city markets, the city work house, recreation, social service, and free legal aid. The Director of Liquor Control issues liquor licenses. The city also employs a trained planning engineer to plan for its future growth. During the war there was a Director of Civilian Defense.

Your city government is "big business." It has a \$100,000,000 physical plant, employs over 3,200 persons, and spends more than \$14,000,000 a year.

THE MUNICIPAL COURT

A most important division of city government is found in the two municipal courts. They handle all legal cases of the city which arise from violations of city ordinances.

For convenience there are two divisions of Kansas City's municipal court. Each is presided over by a judge who is elected by the people for a term of two years. Each must have been a member of the Jackson County Bar Association in good standing for the five years preceding his election. The city manager appoints a clerk to keep the records of the two divisions of the court. Court sessions are held on the fifth floor of the Police Building.

The mayor was the first head of Kansas City's courts. Ac-

cording to the charter of 1853, he had the powers of a justice of the peace, having "original and exclusive jurisdiction in all proceedings under the ordinances of the city." To administer justice, one officer was all that was necessary for a town of less than 4,000. But as the population increased, the duties of the mayor increased also, and by 1859, when an amendment to the charter was passed, the mayor was succeeded by a recorder to handle all judicial matters. The recorder, like the mayor before him, was paid by the small fees collected for his duties, such as 25¢ for each jury summons, oath given, or complaint filed, 50¢ for each warrant issued, and \$1.00 for entering judgment. If the accused person could deposit a sum large enough to pay jury fees, he could have a trial in the recorder's court by a jury of six. The charter amendment also provided for an attorney to handle all cases for the city, and for each conviction he secured, he received a fee of \$2.50.

Under the charter of 1889, the recorder's court gave way to a police court with a judge presiding over it. This court was replaced in turn by the Court of Record or Municipal Court in 1908. Two years later, it was divided into two divisions. When the city-manager charter was adopted in 1925, the Municipal Court remained as it had been set up in 1908. Under the new charter, however, a law department, headed by the city counselor, was organized. Since that time, it has been the duty of this department to advise the council, the city manager, and department heads in all legal matters.

The greatest number of cases handled today by the municipal courts are traffic cases. Many of these are heard each Monday night before one of the judges. Witnesses may be called, but the hearing is held without a jury. If the defendant wishes to appeal the judgment, the case is then sent to the Circuit Court. Into traffic court are brought speeders, drunken and hit-and-run drivers, as well as those who willfully disobey traffic regulations.

The municipal courts are a vital force in the life of the city, for in a single year, over 31,000 cases were tried there.

WE THE PEOPLE

At the beginning of the United States Constitution are the words: "We the people." While nowhere within the charter of Kansas City may these exact words be found, nevertheless they are implied. The supreme authority of the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the state of Missouri is recognized in the city charter. The powers of the city are stated in the charter also. Ten closely-printed pages of it are devoted to what the city may do, and two more are needed to define its legal boundaries. According to the charter, the city shall exercise its powers through the council. But the people elect the council. For this reason, our city government is actually based on the same authority as that of the United States—"We the people."

Proof of the fact that we as a people govern ourselves is given in three provisions or rights of our city government—initiative, referendum, and recall. In order that the elected officials of Kansas City may really be responsible to the people, the charter provides these three means by which the voters may govern directly. These methods are all begun by means of petitions signed by a certain per cent of the voters.

Initiative. To initiate anything is to get it started. Under the charter, the people have the right to start an ordinance, or city law. When the city clerk certifies that five per cent of the voters at the last election for mayor have signed the petition, it is submitted to the council. The council must either pass the proposed ordinance or submit it to a vote of the people. If a majority of those voting approve the ordinance, it becomes a law.

Referendum. A referendum is a vote of the people on an act of the council. Any ordinance passed by the council, except an emergency ordinance, is subject to a vote of the people. If the council does not repeal the ordinance, the council must call an

election, so that the people may decide whether the ordinance shall remain or be repealed. The referendum petition requires ten per cent of the voters.

Recall. Any officer elected by the people may be removed from office by the voters of the city or the district from which he was chosen. After the petition has been signed by twenty per cent of the voters, the council must order an election. A majority vote decides whether the official goes out of office, and if he does so, who is elected to take his place.

In 1940, citizens of Kansas City attempted to exercise the right of recall in order to oust the mayor and several councilmen. The following paper was circulated and received the required number of signers.

Recall Petition Paper (K. C. Star, August 9, 1939)
No. 502

We, the undersigned, electors of Kansas City, Missouri, (and of the _____ Council District, if the petition is for the recall of a member of the Council from a district) demand the removal from office of _____

Councilman from _____ District

Councilman at Large

Mayor

Judge of the Municipal Court

(Strike out three)

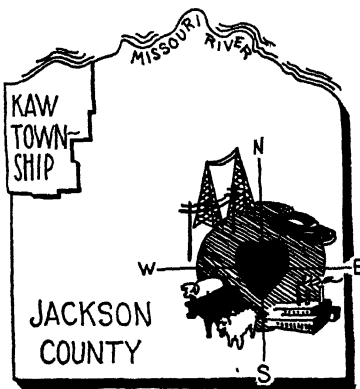
Name	Place of Residence By Street and Number	Ward	Precinct
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However, the city clerk threw out one third of these signatures for unimportant reasons, but stated that they did not tally with the registration books and thus blocked the recall measure.

Citizens countered by circulating another petition to call an election to amend the charter. This amendment, which shortened the term of office of mayor and councilmen from four to two years, was passed, and thereby brought about the end of the term

for the men in office. A new election was held for their successors, those in office were defeated, and a new era in Kansas City's government was started.

You as a citizen will one day become a part of "We the people." Not only will you have the rights and privileges of a voter, but you will also share the duties. You will elect those candidates who you feel are most worthy to hold office. You will pay your taxes because you understand the uses to which they are put and the needs which they must meet. You will obey the laws because you know they are made for the common good, and you want to enjoy the pleasure of living in a law-abiding community. You will want to do your part to make the city-manager plan of government successful in Kansas City.



11. Contact!
Township
And County

GOVERNMENTS THAT SERVE YOU

Do you realize that wherever you are in Kansas City, you are actually in seven places at once? No matter what your address, if you are living within the city limits, you are still in seven places at one time. If you are walking down a street, riding on a bus or street car, eating in a restaurant, watching a movie or a basketball game, or swimming in the pool at Swope Park, you are still in seven places at once. And it has not taken a magician to put you there.

You can be in seven places at once simply because you live in Kansas City. For when you live here, you live in a school district, a township, a city, a county, a state, a nation, and a world. Your complete address is:

Name.....James Thomas

Address.....4619 Main Street

School District of Kansas City, Missouri

Kansas City

Kaw Township

Jackson County

Missouri

United States of America

United Nations

Of course you would never receive a letter addressed in such detail, but this form is literally true, though not necessary for mailing. When all this information is given, it helps you to realize that in your everyday life you have contacts with these seven governments.

Although you may not be conscious that these governments are a part of your daily life, yet their various divisions constantly serve you. You switch on lights which government regulates, for they were installed according to a government safety code. You turn on your radio to get the morning news. The wave lengths are regulated by the government to avoid interference. You

dress for the day and use city water offered at low, non-profit rates. You also drink water that has been tested by the city for purity. The milk, butter, and bacon which you eat for breakfast have all been government inspected for cleanliness and to see that they conform to pure food laws.

You may ride a government-regulated bus or street car to school over city streets in government regulated traffic. You attend a public school where the size of the rooms, the amount of window areas, the width of the rooms and the space per pupil, the number of cubic feet of fresh air, the fire exits, and many other details are controlled and paid for through government. The workers in your school cafeteria must have had health examinations by the city health department. The school nurse checks the health of the pupils. All teachers and other workers in your school are provided by the government.

After school, on your way home, you may stop at a store for groceries. All food produced or prepared in other states or foreign countries must comply with the Pure Food and Drugs Act. Weights and measures have been standardized by government. United States money is used for payment. All persons and property are protected by the city police and fire departments. Garbage is collected by the city and sewage is disposed of by the local government in a manner to protect the health of the citizens. In all of these ways you come into contact with various governments which serve you.

The simplest unit of local government which touches your life is the school district. The School District of Kansas City, Missouri, was organized by the voters of the district in 1867, separate and apart from the city government. Its boundaries, because of the city's growth, are not quite the same as the city boundaries. The School District is governed by a board of six members, each elected for a term of six years. This board has the power, granted by the state, to build schools, employ teachers and administrators, make rules and regulations for governing the

schools, and levy taxes to maintain them. The schools you attend in Kansas City are under the direction of this governing board. In this way, merely by being a student in the public schools, you have contacts with the smallest unit of local government.

YOUR CONTACTS WITH KAW TOWNSHIP

Another unit of local government, once more important than it is today, is the township—a political subdivision of the county. Jackson County was once divided into eight townships: Kaw—where Kansas City is located, Blue, Washington, Prairie, Sni-a-Bar, Van Buren, Ft. Osage, and Brooking. Originally each of these had its own justice of the peace, constable, clerk and tax collector. The boundaries of these townships, however, have changed through the years. Today Jackson County is still divided into townships, but Kaw Township now corresponds with the limits of Kansas City.

When pioneers were first settling in Jackson County, townships were important units of government. They were the means through which the state took care of the roads, the schools, the relief of the poor, assessing and collecting taxes, and keeping order. With the coming of modern transportation and the growth of cities, however, as small a political unit as a township was no longer practical. Wherever cities grew, townships gave over more and more of their functions to the county, and today many of them remain merely as geographical boundaries, but they may be abolished only by an amendment to the state constitution.

Kaw Township is just a geographical boundary today. Even though you live in Kansas City, you may never have realized that you were living in Kaw Township, for there were few times when it directly affected your life. The township was of importance principally in matters affecting the jurisdiction of justices of the peace, who held court in ten different districts of the township. When the new constitution for Missouri was put into effect in 1946, the part which the justices of the peace played in political

and governmental services was taken over by six magistrates of Jackson County. Such magistrates must be licensed lawyers or persons who have previously been justices of the peace for at least four years. Formerly, not all justices of the peace were lawyers.

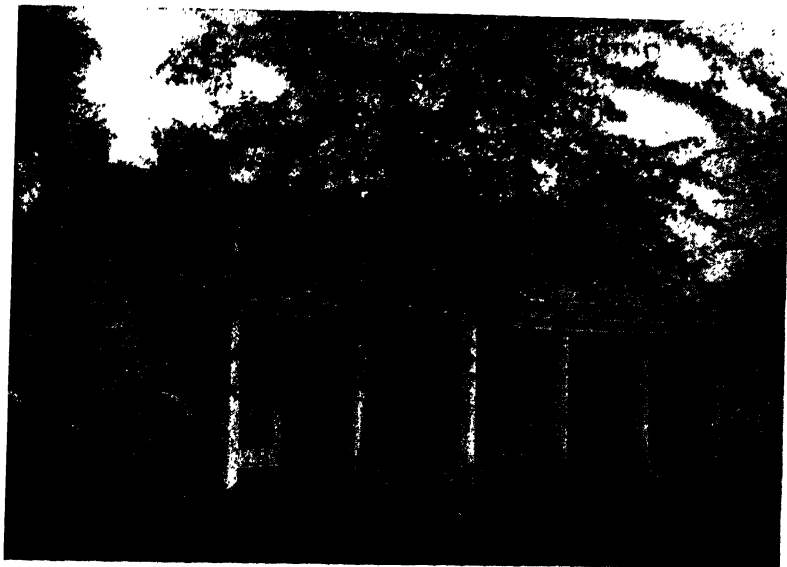
YOUR CONTACTS WITH JACKSON COUNTY

The county in which you live has had an interesting history. When you visit the present courthouse in Kansas City and see the impressive statue of Andrew Jackson in front of it, you are looking at the dashing figure for whom the county was named—the seventh president of the United States. The boundaries of Jackson County in 1825 were fixed by the state, when the county was organized. For a year, its affairs were handled by the county nearest to the east, Lafayette, for there were too few people living in Jackson County to set up their own government. Before that time, the land had been occupied by Indians.

In 1827, a commission of three men was appointed to choose a county seat, and was instructed to find one not more than three miles away from any part of the county. But these men ignored their instructions when they found a spring of pure water at Independence. They considered this a desirable location, and chose it as the site of their courthouse, regardless of its not being the center of the county. They built a log courthouse in Independence as the seat of their local government, and it played an important part in the opening of the West during the days of the Santa Fe Trail. In the Independence courthouse were recorded deeds for the earliest lands settled in the county, and from it rode the armed posses in search of outlaw bands in Civil War days.

In 1835, two other counties were formed from the southern lands of Jackson County, and were named Bates and Cass. This separation gave Jackson County its present boundaries.

A county is often a convenient unit for carrying out some of the duties of the state government and, in addition, it handles its own business affairs which include making roads, building



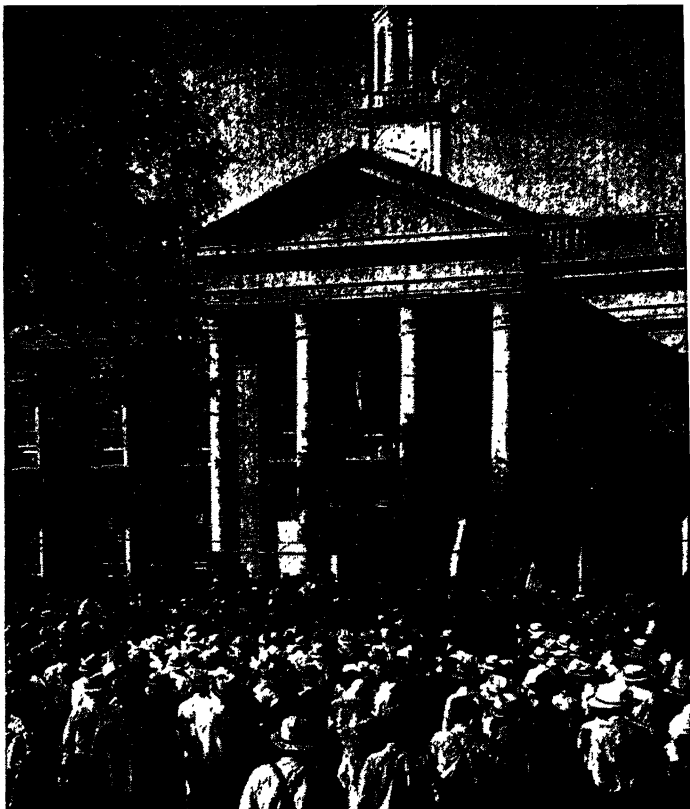
The first courthouse at Independence

bridges, levying and collecting taxes, constructing and maintaining county buildings, taking care of the poor and the insane, and protecting the public welfare generally.

All business of Jackson County is conducted by a county court of three members, one of whom is a presiding judge elected from the county at large. The associate judges are elected from county districts—the Western and Eastern. Kansas City and a part of the county south of the city are in the Western District, while the rest of the county makes up the Eastern District. The County Court is not a trial court but an administrative body. It is a court of record for transacting all county business and managing county finances.

The constitution of Missouri and various state laws define the powers and duties of the County Court. These include:

1. the control of all county buildings, such as the courthouses, the county farm, the county home for the aged, the county hospital, and parental schools
2. entering into business contracts to which the county is a party



The present Jackson County Courthouse in Independence

3. fixing the tax levy on personal and real property
4. placing the assessed valuation on real and personal property
5. appointing all non-elective officers, including a highway engineer, a county physician, and some election officials
6. building and repairing county highways
7. holding hearings before placing anyone in a state hospital for the insane, the blind, the deaf, or the feeble minded
8. checking the payrolls and paying county employees
9. investing public school funds
10. budgeting county funds
11. zoning the county outside of Kansas City

Besides the County Court, Jackson County has at least fourteen officers who are elected to conduct its business.

The *County Collector* collects taxes. He receives from the County Clerk a statement of the amount due from each taxpayer in the county.

The *County Treasurer* receives from the County Collector the taxes collected for county and school purposes. He pays county warrants on orders from the County Court and school warrants on orders from school districts.

The *County Assessor* assesses the valuation of land and other property for the purpose of taxation. Taxpayers dissatisfied with such assessment may appeal to the Board of Equalization consisting of the three judges of the County Court, the Assessor and the Surveyor who correct, where necessary, the value of property for the assessment of taxes. Every four years, the County Assessor makes a census of all voters under sixty-five years of age for jury service.

The *Circuit Clerk* records the business of the Circuit Court. He issues warrants for those charged with crime, administers oaths to grand and petit jurors and witnesses, and keeps the files of papers in law suits.

The *County Sheriff* executes the orders of the County Court, Circuit Court, Probate Court, and Magistrate Courts. He serves notices and makes arrests. It is his business to preserve the peace, and he may order citizens to help him do so. The Sheriff cannot succeed himself.

The *Prosecuting Attorney* is the legal advisor of county officers. He represents the county in all legal matters, issues informations against persons suspected of crime, and represents the state in the trial of cases of persons accused of crime.

The *Recorder of Deeds* makes and preserves permanent records of all deeds, mortgages and transfers of property, besides issuing marriage licenses. Such documents properly recorded are notice to all the world of their contents.

The *Surveyor*, as his name implies, makes official surveys of roads and boundaries.

The *Public Administrator* takes charge of and administers the estates of deceased persons, minors, and those mentally incompetent to manage their own affairs in all cases in which such duties do not by law fall upon other persons.

The *County Coroner* investigates causes of mysterious or sudden death and issues the death certificate in cases where no physician is in attendance. He serves all summonses the Sheriff is not qualified to make, and has the power to arrest suspected persons. A Coroner's Jury consists of six members.

The *County Superintendent of Schools* is elected for a term of four years. He supervises schools outside the city limits, aids directors and teachers, approves courses of study, examines and issues certificates to teachers, arranges for consolidations of schools and collects educational statistics.

The *Probate Judge* presides over the Probate Court which has exclusive original jurisdiction over all matters of probate, such as the administration and settlement of estates of deceased persons and those who are incompetent because they are minors or insane. Administrators are appointed for the estates of persons dying without a will, and letters are issued to executors appointed by will. Executors, administrators, guardians, and curators must account to this court for all of such property coming into their possession.

State Representatives in the General Assembly are also classified as county officers. The number of representatives to which a county is entitled depends upon its population. There are ten representatives for Jackson County.

As you have learned, the County Court is not a court for the trial of ordinary lawsuits. There are, however, courts in Jackson County where all such cases may be tried. These are the Circuit Courts, which are courts of the general jurisdiction, and magistrate courts which are courts of limited jurisdiction.

One of the 38 circuit courts in Missouri is in Jackson County. It consists of ten divisions, of which nine sit in Kansas City and one sits in Independence. A case called for trial in Kansas City may be sent to any division there. Division Number 7 is called the juvenile court and deals with juvenile matters and generally with domestic relation cases. Circuit judges are appointed by the Governor for their first terms. He selects one of three names recommended by a committee. Thereafter each judge, although required to run for re-election at the end of each succeeding term, usually holds office for life. Each circuit judge must be at least thirty years old, a resident of the circuit to which appointed (in Jackson County the 16th Judicial Circuit) and have been a qualified voter for at least three years before his appointment.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI,
AT KANSAS CITY.

PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS
TO THE HONORABLE _____, JUDGE OF THE
CIRCUIT COURT OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI:-

Your petitioner, _____,
respectfully represent that he _____ being unlawfully deprived of _____ liberty by _____, Director of Police of Kansas City, Missouri, _____, Chief of Police of Kansas City, Missouri, Captains, Sergeants, Lieutenants and officers working under their direction whose names are to the petitioner unknown; that your petitioner was arrested without warrant or any process of law being served upon _____, and _____ now being detained illegally and unlawfully in the city jail or holdover of Kansas City, Missouri.

Your petitioner further state that said imprisonment is illegal and that he _____ being illegally held; that he _____ being denied the right to give bond, or the right of counsel.

Your petitioner further states that no application for the relief sought herein has been made to or refused by any court, officer or officers superior to the one to whom this petition is presented.

WHEREFORE, your petitioner pray that a writ of habeas corpus may be issued to the end that he may be discharged from such unlawful imprisonment.

STATE OF MISSOURI)
COUNTY OF JACKSON) SS.

_____, of lawful age, being

first duly sworn upon his oath, says that he is the attorney for petitioner herein; that the facts and matters set out therein are true as he verily believes.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me, this ____ day of 1937.
(SEAL)

Notary Public.

My commission expires _____

WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.

THE STATE OF MISSOURI, TO _____, DIRECTOR OF POLICE OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, _____, CHIEF OF POLICE OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, _____, CHIEF OF DETECTIVES OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, AND CAPTAINS, SERGEANTS, LIEUTENANTS AND OFFICERS UNDER YOU, GREETING:-

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED that the body of _____

under your custody detained in the city jail of Kansas City, Missouri, as it is said, under safe and secure conduct, together with the time and cause of _____ imprisonment and detention, by whatever name the said _____ may be known, you have before the Honorable _____, Judge of the Circuit Court within the County of Jackson, forthwith then and there to be dealt with according to law and have you then and there this writ and hereof fail not at your peril.

WITNESS the Honorable _____ Judge of the Circuit Court within Jackson County, and the seal of said Court affixed thereto this _____ day of _____ 1936.

Judge of the Circuit Court.

Cases in the circuit court or in a magistrate court may be tried by the court or by a jury, depending upon the nature of the case and the wishes of the parties concerned. All citizens of the county between the ages of twenty-one and sixty-five years may be called for jury services. They are summoned by the sheriff, paid \$3.00 a day, and usually serve from four to six days. They may not be called for such service more than once each year. Grand juries are separately called to consider criminal investigation and return indictments where justified. They also inspect county institutions.

BRING THIS SUMMONS WITH YOU
In the Circuit Court of Jackson County, at Kansas City, Mo.
To

The State of Missouri

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED

to be and appear before the Honorable, _____, Judge of
Division No. _____, of the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Mis-
souri, at the Court House in KANSAS CITY, in the Jury Assem-
bly, ROOM 301, on Monday the _____ day of _____, at 8:30
o'clock A. M. of that day, then and there to serve as Juror until
discharged by the Court. Hereof fail not at your peril.

All persons duly summoned as jurors

may be attached for non-attendance

and fined by the Court for contempt. _____, Sheriff

THE SHERIFF CANNOT EXCUSE ANY JUROR

There are certain recognized weaknesses in all county govern-
ments. County officers whose authority is not centralized are
responsible only to the voters. The "spoils" system is often used
in appointing officials and they are paid by the "fee" system.
Terms of office are so short that officials are not able to accom-

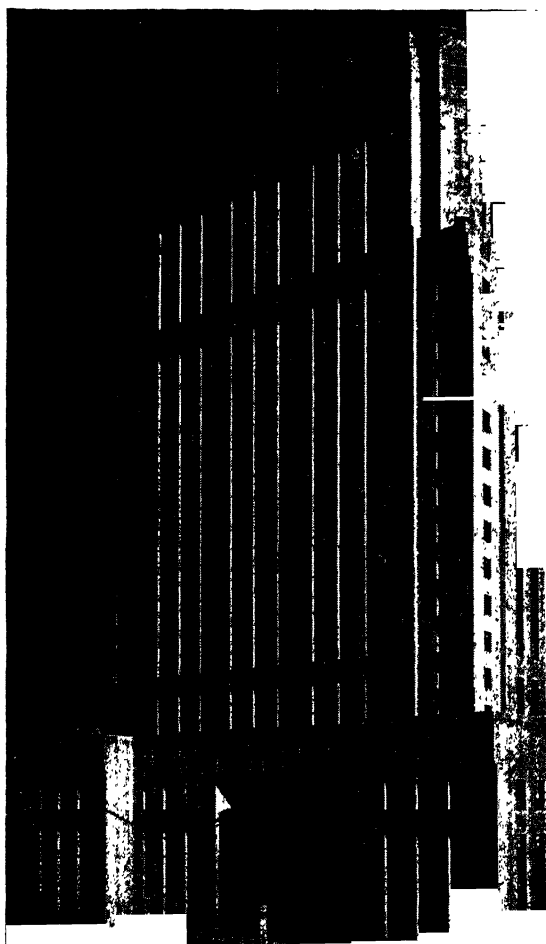
The jury drum from which names are drawn



plish a great deal nor are they especially interested in reform. There is too often a lack of exercised control over county finances or a thorough system of accounting. For many years county offices paid very little, so frequently the best qualified men did not seek election.

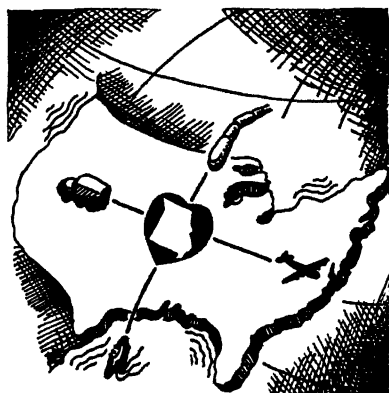
Ever since Jackson County was organized in 1825, its plan of government has remained practically the same. The framework of government administration suitable for the simple lives and few wants of traders and pioneers on the banks of the Missouri long ago, is not adequate to deal efficiently with the problems

The Jackson
County Court
House in
Kansas City



today of our industrialized community. Some years ago both political parties recognized the need to change the form of Jackson County government. In 1932, President Harry Truman, who was then presiding judge of the Jackson County Court, was a member of a committee which recommended reorganizing our county government and bringing it up-to-date, but the plans could not be carried out because of the old constitution of 1875 then in effect. The new Missouri Constitution of 1945, however, allows counties with a population of more than 85,000 to frame, adopt, and amend a "home rule" charter for their own government.

A group of public-spirited citizens formed the Jackson County Charter Committee in the fall of 1945. Its purpose was to circulate petitions asking that a commission be appointed by the circuit and probate judges to draft a "home rule" charter. When a charter is drafted by the commission, it will be submitted for approval to the voters of the county at a special election. It is to be hoped that a "home rule" charter for Jackson County will provide a much more economical and efficient type of government. Under its proposed provisions, there will be fewer officers, a better method of handling county business affairs, and a central control over the expenditures of all departments. There will be one head similar to a city manager to whom all departments except the judicial will be responsible. Improvements in county government are very important, for your county is the closest agent of the state for you.



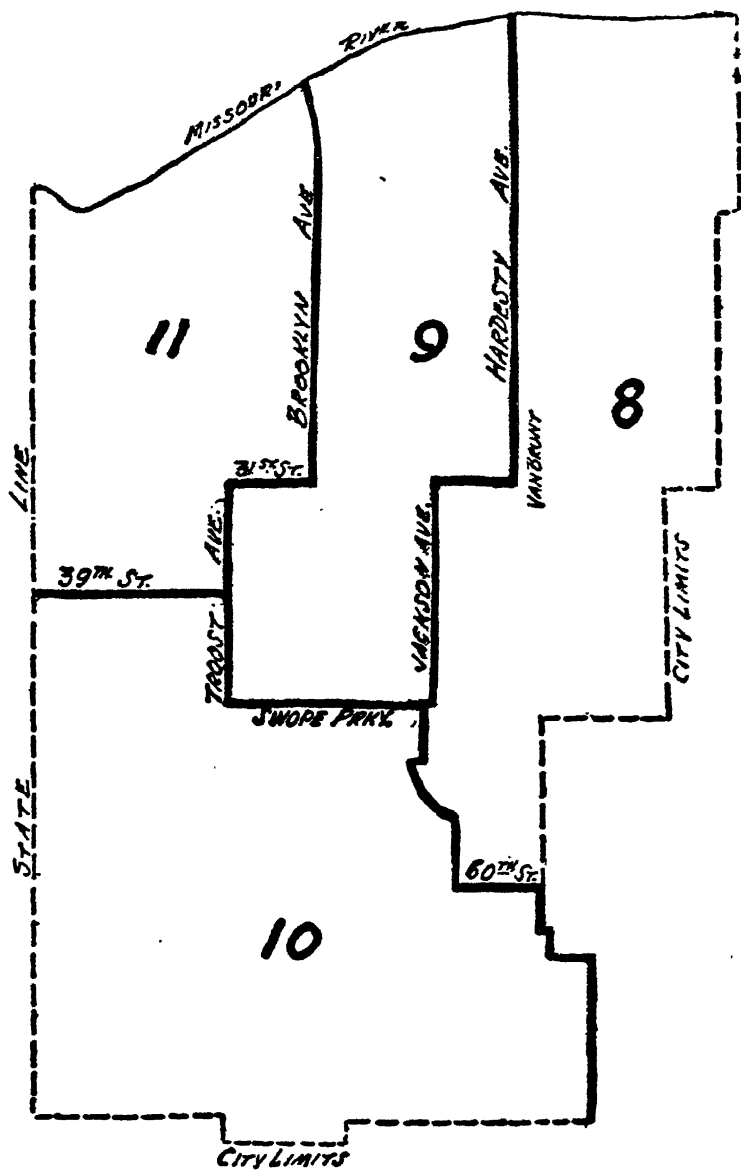
12. Contact!
State,
Nation,
And World

YOUR CONTACTS WITH THE STATE OF MISSOURI

You may feel that if you live in Kansas City you have very little contact with the state of Missouri. You may think that the beautiful capitol building at Jefferson City is something far removed from your life, touching it in no way. Yet reaching out from that capitol dome is a network of threads which covers the state and establishes contact with you in your own personal life. For Kansas City itself received the right to become incorporated as a town by an act of the state legislature which gave the county court the power to incorporate the town when its citizens sought to do so. In this manner, Kansas City owes its political existence to the state government. It was first incorporated February 4, 1850, under the name of the Town of Kansas.

Your contacts with the state come through its three divisions of government: the legislative, the executive, and the judicial. From this legislative, or lawmaking branch, come the state laws which govern you. The county where you live is divided into four senatorial districts, each electing one senator to the upper house of the General Assembly. Eleven members of the House of Representatives, or lower house, are elected from Jackson County, ten of them being from Kansas City. The state legislature meets in Jefferson City every odd-numbered year.

Another way in which the legislative body directly touches your life is through its taxing power, for Missouri's constitution gives to the General Assembly the power to levy taxes for all state purposes. The constitution further states that all taxable property shall be divided into three classes: (1) real property or real estate, (2) tangible personal property or automobiles, furniture, livestock, etc., (3) intangible property, such as corporate stocks and the debts represented by notes, bonds, etc., or property which cannot be felt or touched. The tax rate in Missouri for real property is fixed at ten cents on every hundred dollars of assessed valuation. The legislative body of the state government



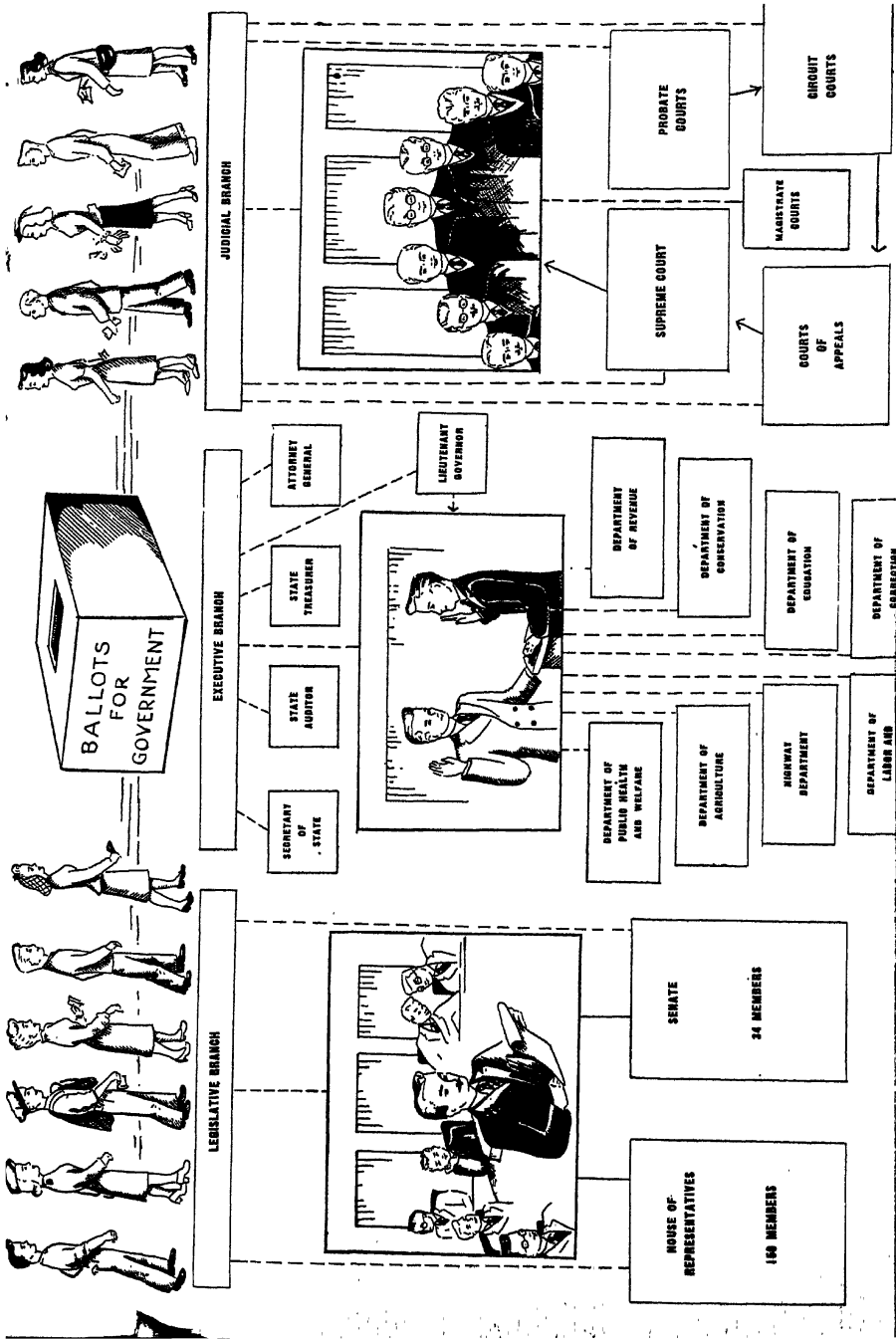
Senatorial districts for Jackson County

also passes laws regulating inheritance, sales, and income taxes which similarly affect you.

Provisions of the constitution in regard to corporations affect you, too. Any church, university, or business in order to become a corporation, must secure legal permission in the form of a charter from the state. You are protected under this fundamental law by knowing that a corporation can continue after the death of its owners, that its operations must be restricted to the purposes for which it was organized, that its property is protected and its operations are regulated by law.

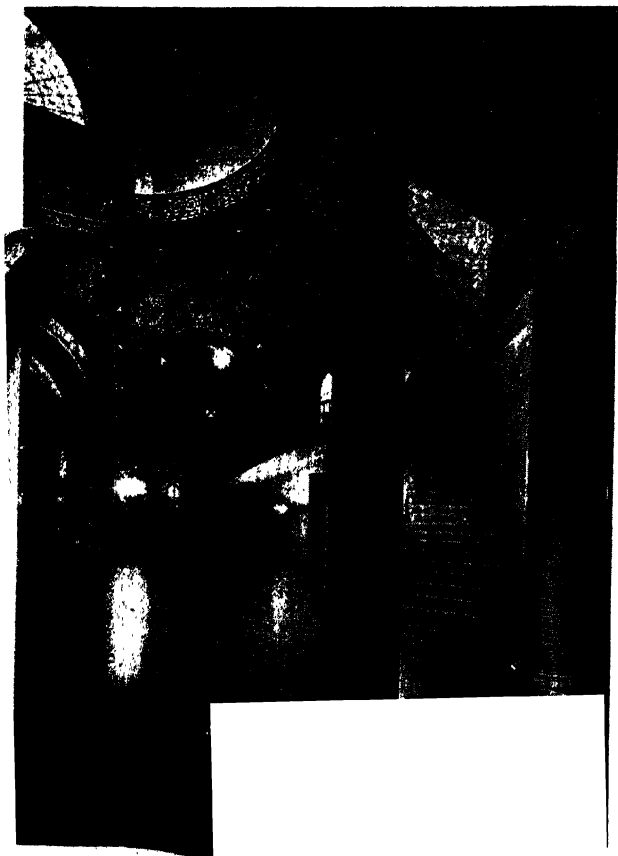
The executive branch of your state government is carried on under the leadership of the governor, who is elected for a term of four years and receives a salary of \$10,000. This branch sees to it that laws are carried out and peace is maintained. The governor is assisted in enforcing the laws by the lieutenant governor, who presides over the senate, the secretary of state, the state auditor, the state treasurer, and the attorney general, all of whom are elected for four-year terms. Instead of a state superintendent of schools who, under the old constitution, was formerly elected by the people, education under the present constitution is in the hands of a bi-partisan school board of eight members appointed by the governor. One of the board's chief duties is to select a state commissioner of education, chosen for his fitness and educational leadership. This commissioner may serve for an indefinite number of years.

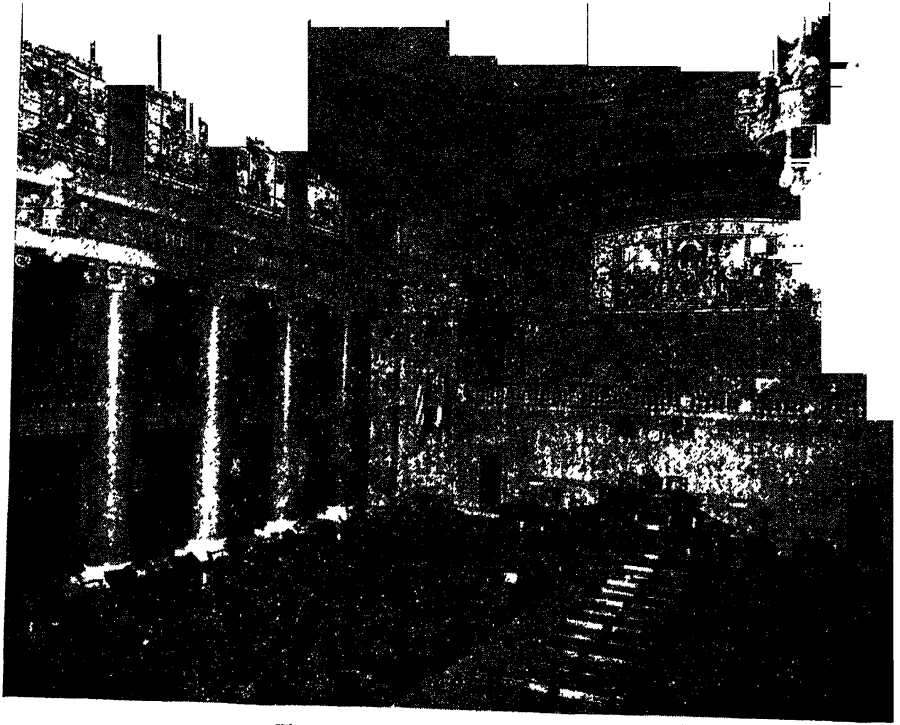
Under Missouri's 1945 constitution, the executive branch of government is organized into departments, much like the cabinet of the federal government. When the constitution went into effect in 1946, there were thirteen of these departments, including those headed by elective officials, in contrast to nearly a hundred boards and commissions under the old constitution. One of these departments is the highway department which constructs and maintains the state highways and bridges over which you drive. Another is the public health and welfare department which



supervises various state health agencies, social security, eleemosynary institutions, and schools and industrial homes for boys and girls. A third is the conservation department which regulates and conserves for your pleasure all wildlife resources of the state, including birds, fish, and game. A fourth, the revenue department, has one division of collections and another of budget. This department collects your state taxes and license fees. A fifth department, agriculture, protects and develops Missouri's agricultural resources, and through its help to farmers, aids in providing a good food supply for you. This department sponsors the state fair. Still another department, that of correction, has

The main rotunda of Missouri's Capitol





The House of Representatives in the State Capitol

charge of all penal institutions. The department of labor and industrial relations is a new department in Missouri's government.

The public service commission of the executive branch of government has a direct bearing on your life, too. It is a body directly responsible to the government. How much you pay for your telephone and telegraph service, your light, gas, electricity, water, and heat may be regulated by this commission. The fare that you pay to a railroad, a street railway, or bus company, or the rate to a trucking company, a pipe line, or grain elevator, is subject to its regulation. Rates may be raised or lowered, changes in services made, and all other practices of fair dealing influenced by the public service commission.

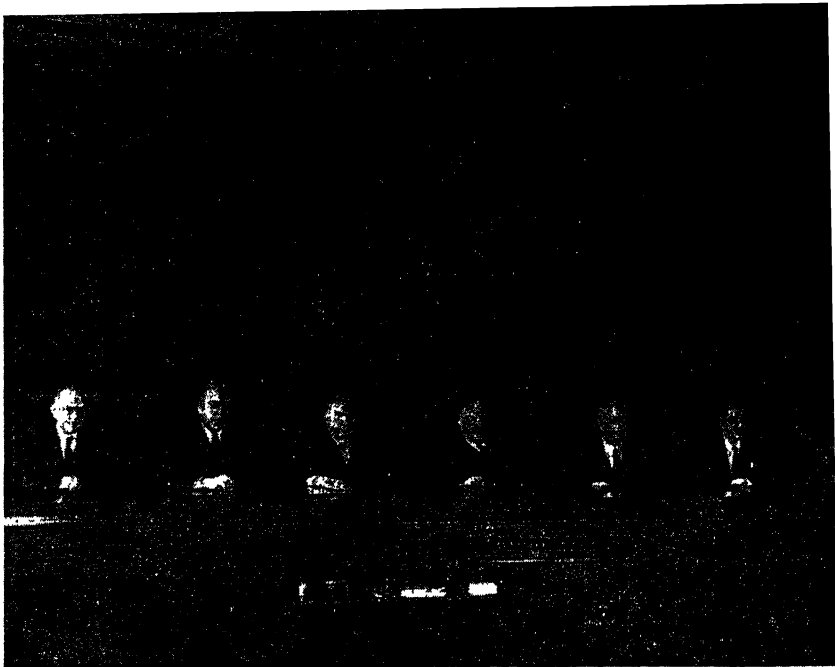
State courts compose the judicial branch of your government. They include the Supreme Court, Courts of Appeals, Circuit

Courts, Probate Courts and Magistrate Courts. Their purpose is to interpret for you the laws of your state and nation, to make sure that you are given a fair trial, and to insure justice when a crime or other wrong is committed. State courts handle both civil and criminal cases, and are set up according to the kinds of cases they try and the jurisdiction or authority which they have.

The lowest courts in the state are the magistrate courts of each county. They are often called the people's court, for before them appear many more persons than those who carry their cases to higher courts. Settling minor disputes, holding preliminary hearings of criminal cases, and trying cases involving not more than \$1000 is the purpose of the magistrate courts.

Where cases in the circuit courts are to be appealed in the hope of a different decision, they are carried to the Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court. There are three Courts of Appeals in Missouri—one in St. Louis, one in Kansas City, and a third in Springfield. Each appeals court has three judges, elected for twelve-year terms.

The highest of all the courts in Missouri is the Supreme Court, composed of seven judges, elected for twelve years. The Supreme Court sits in Jefferson City, but supervises *all the courts* of the state. Cases may be appealed to this court when the amount in dispute is over \$7,500, when the case involves the interpretation of the Constitution of the United States or of this state, or of the revenue laws of Missouri, or the title of any office in the state, or the title to real estate, or in cases where a state officer is a party, or in all cases of felony. The Supreme Court decides upon the procedure to be used in all the lower courts of the state. No matter what the ideas of the Supreme Court may be in matters involving changes in laws, it must apply the law as the people through the legislature write it. This means that the power of making changes in the law actually rests with the citizens.



The Supreme Court of Missouri

While you may never need to have any direct contact with the city or state courts, yet you are protected by the very fact that they exist. For through their judgments, your life, your liberty and your property are guarded, criminals are brought to justice, and the public welfare is promoted.

The following state offices are set up in your city to serve you:

Assistant State Service Office

Attorney General

Auto Department of Secretary of State

Grain Department

Commissioner, Board of Trade

Inspection Department, Board of Trade

Inspection Laboratory, Board of Trade

Weighing Department, Board of Trade

Highway Department Garage

Highway Patrol—Troop A (Headquarters and two Weight Stations)

Labor and Industrial Inspection Department

Liquor Control Department

Oil Inspection Department

Workmen's Compensation Commission

Sales Tax Department

Social Security Commission

State Parole Commission

Unemployment Compensation Commission

YOUR INHERITANCE FROM MISSOURI

Your contacts with your state also include a valuable inheritance—a history of stirring epochs, a storehouse of rich natural resources, and an honor roll of famous names. A brief glimpse into Missouri's history will help to explain some of your life patterns today.

Long before it became a state, Missouri was a vast wilderness, broken only by the two great rivers which help to bound it. Its first inhabitants were mound builders, who have left traces of their lives in the 28,000 mounds which have been found in Missouri. Long after the time of the mound builders, Indian tribes roamed these lands. Animals of the plains and the forest and the moccasined feet of Indian hunters alone broke the stillness of that wilderness until the first white man came to explore the unknown territory in 1541-42.

The Spanish nobleman, Fernando de Soto, is supposed to have crossed the two most southern counties of present-day Missouri when he reached the Mississippi River. But it was not until a hundred years later that he was followed by the two Frenchmen, Joliet and Marquette, fur trader and priest, who are thought to have camped upon the soil of what is now Missouri. After thirty years, Robert LaSalle, a Frenchman who sought to make his fortune in the new world, floated down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico and laid claim to all the lands drained by that river

and its tributaries in the name of the King of France. This included what was to become Missouri. These early explorers were followed by others who shot the wild fowl that winged over the prairies, trapped the game that lived in the forests, and buried their dead at night to escape the prying eyes of unfriendly Indians.

Explorers who tramped through the mud of Missouri swamp lands or drank from the clear springs of the Ozark hills were followed by fur traders, eager to grow rich from the skins of the animals that roamed within Missouri's boundaries, or by miners, seeking the wealth of its minerals. With their coming grew the earliest settlements in the state. The first permanent settlement in what is now Missouri was made on the banks of the Mississippi River at Ste. Genevieve in 1735 by a group of Frenchmen, mining the lead ore which lies beneath the land surrounding that town. Thirty years later, St. Louis was started by Pierre Laclède as a French trading post.

The towns of Ste. Genevieve and St. Louis were typical of many towns and villages established during the period of French rule in Missouri which lasted for over a quarter of a century. Today the names of towns, rivers, mountains, and counties show this French origin—Cape Girardeau, St. Joseph, Fayette, Versailles, Femme Osage, River Des Peres, Ozarks (Aux Arcs), Gasconade, and others. The earliest French villages were enclosed with a high fence for protection against the Indians. The two-room cabins within were built of whitewashed logs, set upright. Back of the cabins were orchards and vegetable and flower gardens. There was a "common field" where each man was given a strip of land to farm, and a fenced-in "commons," or pasture, for the livestock of the whole community. There were no stores—the settlers traded among themselves for their needs. French settlers were nearly all Catholics, and their children were taught by the village priest.

After France's defeat by the English in the French and Indian War, she gave all of her lands west of the Mississippi River to

Highway Patrol—Troop A (Headquarters and two Weight Stations)

Labor and Industrial Inspection Department

Liquor Control Department

Oil Inspection Department

Workmen's Compensation Commission

Sales Tax Department

Social Security Commission

State Parole Commission

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Two of the first homes at Ste. Genevieve

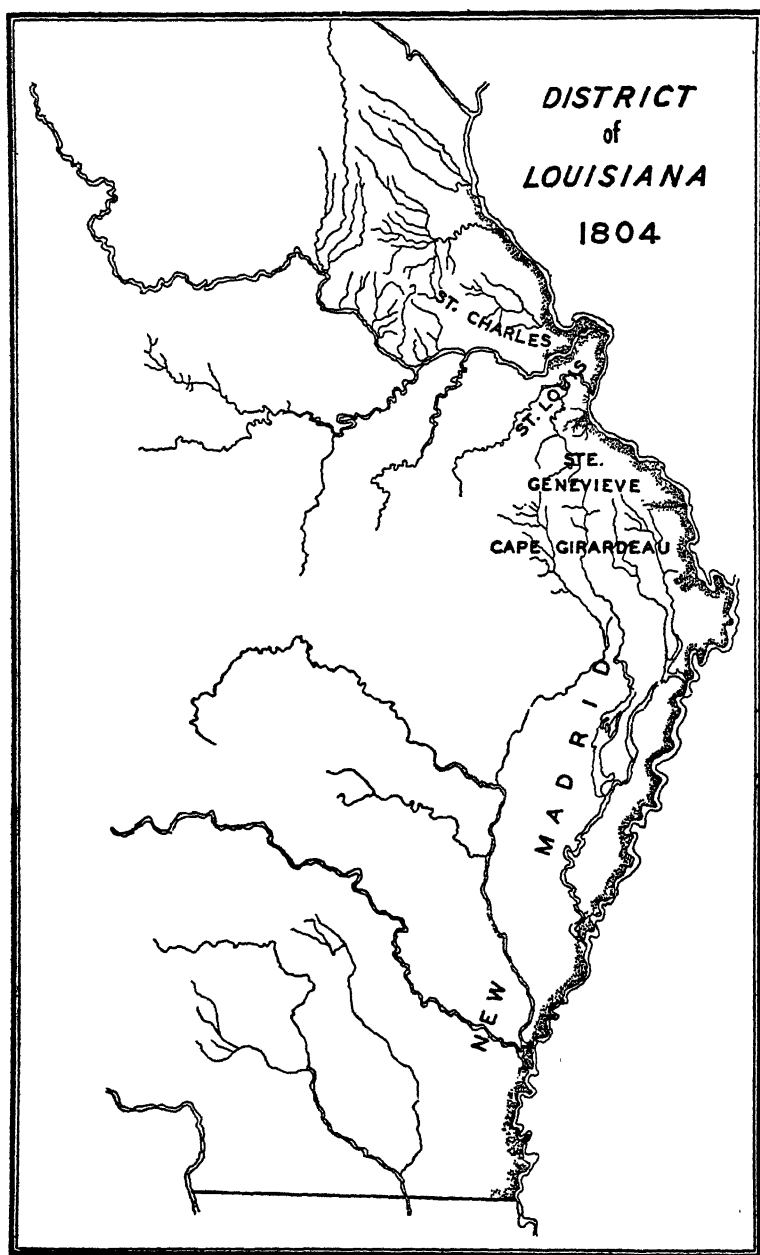
Spain in payment for her help. This meant that the French people living within these lands were then to be governed by Spanish rulers. The period of Spanish rule lasted from 1763 to 1800. During this time, the new government offered free land to those willing to come to America and settle within their territory, and the only cost to them was the fee for surveying and registering their land. The Missouri country was divided into five districts—St. Charles, St. Louis, Ste. Genevieve, Cape Girardeau, and New

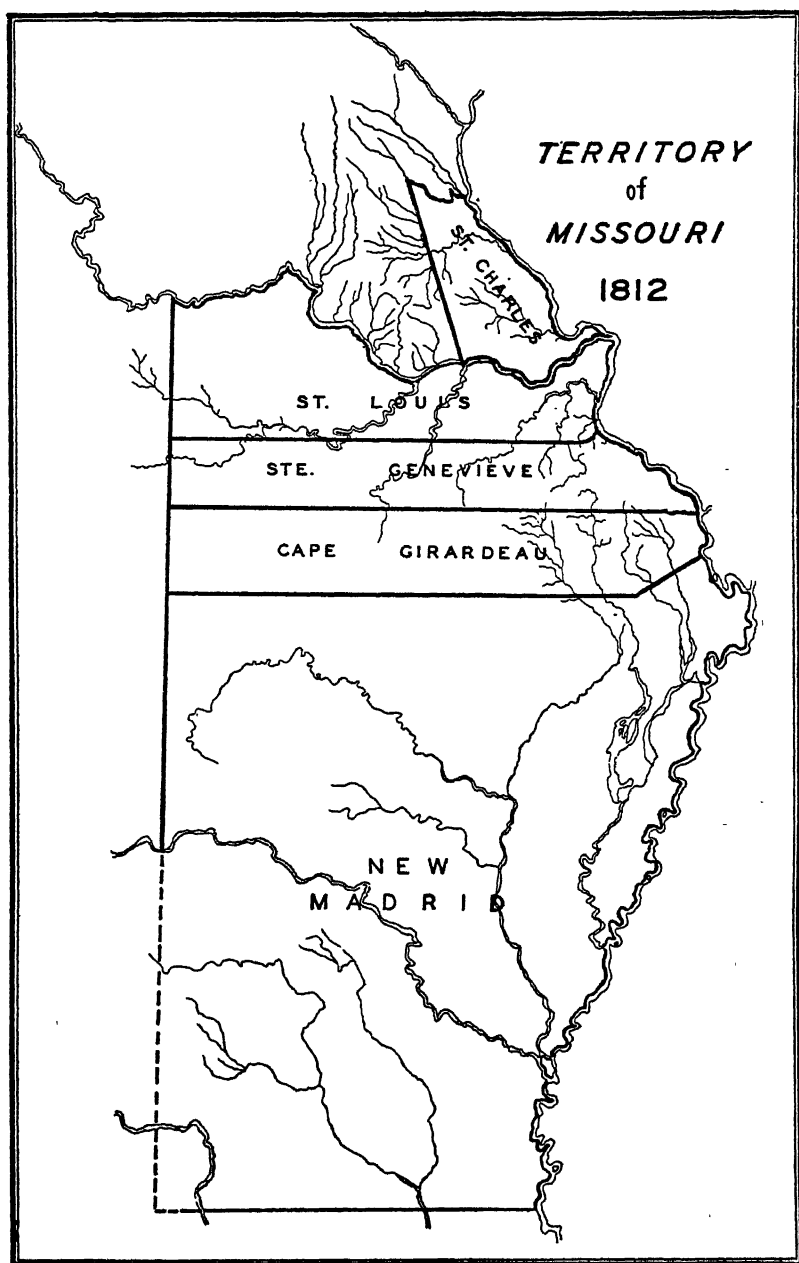
Madrid. The population of Missouri grew from 1,000 to 10,000 during the years it was ruled by the Spaniards.

But by 1800, Spain had given all of these lands back to France, who once again owned and governed the region west of the Mississippi. Three years later, however, the United States government was able to buy this territory from France, and it became known as the Louisiana Purchase. President Thomas Jefferson was then anxious that these lands be explored, and appointed Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to invade the wilderness. The part that was Missouri was further explored by Daniel Boone, John C. Fremont, Zebulon Pike, Kit Carson, and others.

After exploration came settlement and pioneer communities. By 1804, there were enough people living in the Louisiana Purchase for Congress to divide the territory of Louisiana at the thirty-third degree of latitude, and to name the upper territory, of which Missouri is a part, the District of Louisiana. It was under the authority of the governor and judges of the Territory of Indiana. The settlers were not satisfied with this arrangement, however, and asked Congress to make their region a separate territory. In 1805, Congress changed the name of these lands to the Territory of Louisiana and gave it a governor and three judges, chosen by the President. Meriwether Lewis became its first governor in 1807, and was followed by William Clark. In 1812, the name was changed to "Missouri" for an Indian tribe which once roamed its lands. As the Territory of Missouri, the people could elect their own house of representatives and send a delegate to Congress. The territory was divided into only five counties. In 1816, the entire legislature, composed of two houses, was elected by the people.

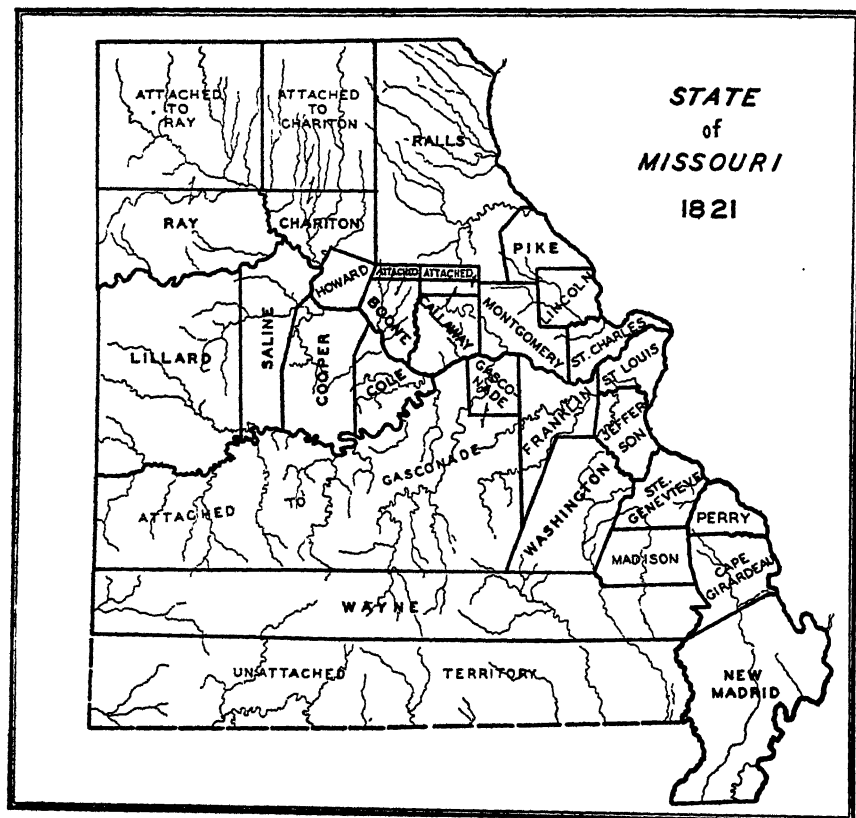
Missouri pioneers looked forward to the time when their territory could take its place among the states of the nation, and in 1818, they petitioned Congress for statehood. The population of Missouri Territory was then 70,000, including 10,000 slaves. Congress became the scene of a bitter argument, for Northerners





wanted Missouri admitted as a free state, while Southerners wanted it to enter the Union as one permitting slavery. The end of the argument was the Missouri Compromise, reached two years later when Maine sought to enter the Union as a free state. The terms of the Compromise provided that Missouri should be admitted as a slave state, but that slavery should be prohibited in all other states in the Louisiana Purchase, north of 36°30' latitude.

The period of early statehood can be remembered as one of settlement and expansion. Besides the French and American settlers who were already here, the years between 1830 and 1860 brought great numbers of Germans and Irish. New lands were



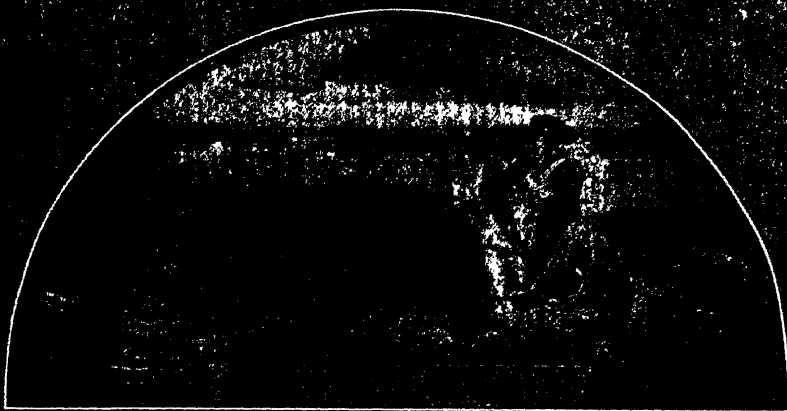
added to the state when its northwestern boundaries were extended in 1836 to include a triangle of land belonging to the Sac and Fox Indians, which became known as the Platte Purchase. For this land, Missouri paid \$7,500 and gave to the Indians a tract of land in Kansas. The fertile lands of the Platte Purchase were soon settled by Southern farmers.

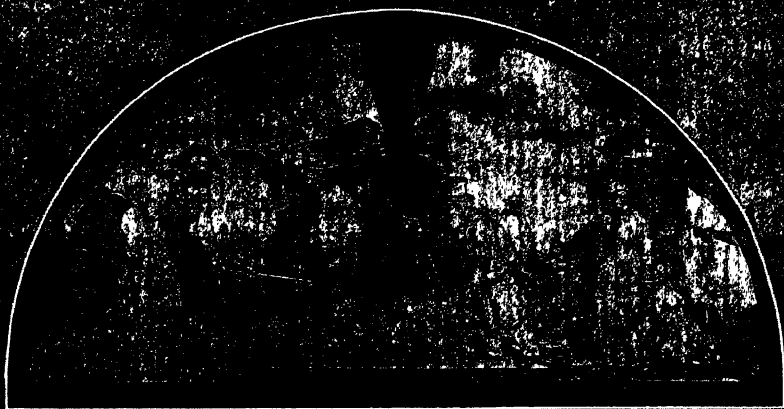
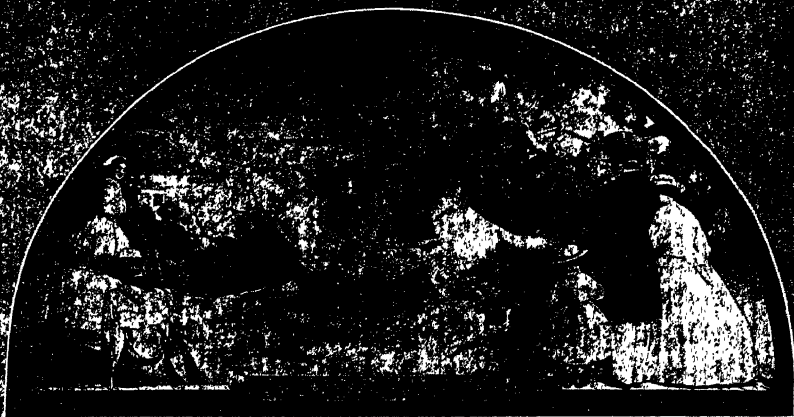
During the 1830's, Missouri continued to grow in population as its early fur trade developed into a great industry. Pioneers pushing westward in the 1840's to travel the Santa Fe or Oregon Trails often settled in Missouri instead. The coming of the railroads to the Middle West during the 1850's brought new settlers to Missouri. Railroad companies needed workers, and brought many of them from foreign lands. Their families came with them, and settled in the state along the railroad right of way.

Missouri was not without its troubles as it grew. One of the chief causes of strife centered around the Mormons, a religious group, which settled here in the 1830's. Missourians feared that the Mormons would one day outnumber them, and disliked their different religious and social beliefs, so they forced the group to move from county to county until they finally drove most of them out of the state.

Another difficulty was the border warfare with Kansas, caused by the clash between slaveholders and those opposed to slavery. The trouble started after Congress had passed the Kansas-Nebraska Act, in 1854, which opened the territory of Kansas for settlement. The act also allowed the settlers to decide whether Kansas should become a free or slave state.

Many slave-holding Missourians left to homestead in the new territory in order to claim Kansas as a slave state. Anti-slavery settlers from both Missouri and New England also moved into these lands in Kansas. Feeling ran high between the two groups, especially at election time. Missouri friends of pro-slavery Kansans rushed across the border to their aid, sometimes going so far as to establish two residences—one in Kansas and one in Missouri.





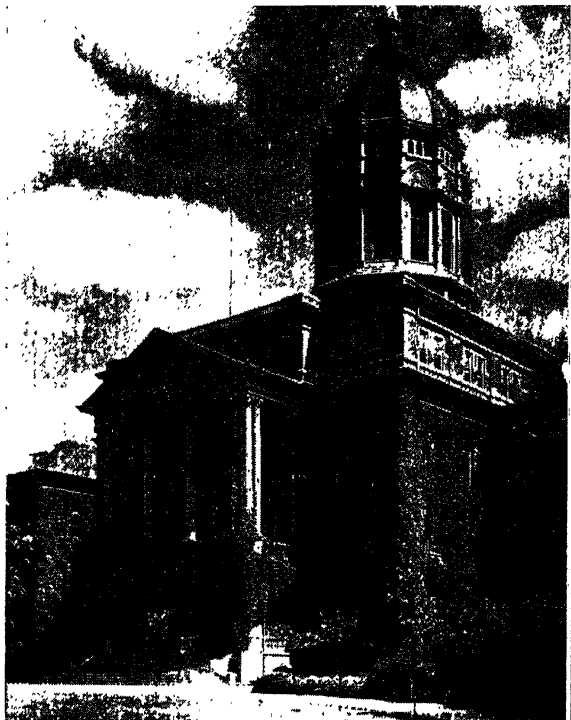
This practice led to two separate governments being set up in Kansas. Often groups of outlaws from both states only made matters worse by raiding and burning homes, stealing property, and terrorizing the countryside. It was necessary for the governor of Missouri to call out the state militia in order to maintain law and order, but there was no end to border warfare until the close of the Civil War.

When war actually broke out between the states of the North and the South, Missouri called a convention to decide on which side it was to stand. Although the convention voted for the state to stay in the Union, many of its residents believed in the cause of the South. Families within the state were torn apart when brother fought against brother. Neighbors who had been friends became enemies. By being a border state, Missouri was plunged into bitterness by the conflict.

While hundreds of skirmishes were fought in Missouri, there were few important battles. Real fighting in the state between the northern and southern armies began at Boonville. Other major engagements were the Battle at Wilson's Creek near Springfield, the Battle of Pea Ridge, and the Battle of Lexington (sometimes called the Battle of Hemp Bales, since bales of hemp were used as fortifications). The turning point of the war in Missouri came with the Battle of Westport, fought near the City of Kansas. This battle is often referred to as the Gettysburg of the West because General Sterling Price's Confederate army was turned back here and driven south. During the four years of war, about 109,000 Missourians fought in the Union Army, and 30,000 for the Confederacy.

The years immediately following the close of the Civil War were gloomy ones. Returned soldiers who had fought on different sides often kept alive their feeling of bitterness by street fighting. Outlaw bands continued to raid and loot. Farms were overgrown with weeds, schools and churches were closed, many homes had been burned, and money was scarce. Giving the vote

Jesse Hall at
The University
of Missouri



to Negroes and taking it from Confederates created a feeling of deep injustice in those who had been defeated. Healing the wounds of war was a long and difficult process in the border state of Missouri.

One of the first steps which Missourians took to reconstruct the state government was the calling of a constitutional convention in 1865. This group drafted a new constitution which was not far different from the one of 1820. One of its few changes was that it provided state aid for education, and required not less than one fourth of the state funds to be used for that purpose. Public education became the concern of the state rather than of separate communities alone, and a state board of education was appointed.

Another provision of the constitution was the adoption of a test oath. This had to be taken by all who wanted to vote for the new constitution, and contained a list of offenses of which anyone

might be guilty if he had shown "sympathy, approval, or support of the Confederacy." Unless a man would swear to the "Iron-clad Oath," he could not vote, hold office, teach, preach, or practice law. This oath took the right to vote from at least one-third of the people of the state, and was the means of keeping the political control in the hands of the radicals. This condition, however, lasted only a few years and was corrected in 1870.

Other problems of reconstruction days throughout the nation concerned the farmers, who determined to solve some of their own. They formed a secret organization known as the Grange in order to secure better living and economic conditions among farmers. While the Grange was more a social and educational organization than a political one, yet it was powerful enough to shape public opinion for passing certain laws beneficial to the farmer. There were as many as 2,000 Grange clubs in Missouri during the 1870's, and they all helped to bring grain elevators and mail order houses to the state, besides making the voice of the farmer heard.

During the Civil War, most of the railroads that had been built in Missouri were destroyed. Raiders had torn up track and wrecked equipment. Since the railroads could not do business, they could not pay their debts and these had to be met by the state. The financial burden on the state was so heavy that when a new constitution was adopted in 1875, it contained a provision that state credit could not be used to assist private corporations. Although it was not so stated, this provision was directed at the railroads.

The first train trip across Missouri was made in 1865 from St. Louis to Kansas City over the Missouri Pacific road. When the federal government gave financial aid to the railroad, however, expansion was rapid. Missouri's railroads were needed to carry its minerals and agricultural products to new markets. They were needed to carry travelers to Oregon and traders to starting points for the Santa Fe Trail. By the turn of the century, almost

7,000 miles of railroad track had been laid over the state, and St. Louis and Kansas City had become large rail centers. St. Louis, by this time, had for several years been the fourth largest city in the United States.

Reconstruction days were days of confusion in government. Measures which the Republicans included in the constitution of 1865 were so bitterly opposed by Missouri Democrats that when they regained power ten years later, they adopted a new constitution which closely resembled the original one drafted in 1820 when Missouri was seeking statehood. The "bill of rights" in the 1875 document gave such safeguards to individuals that the courts, which had so annoyed the land owners, were greatly limited in their powers. The legislature, too, was held to fixed rates of taxation and to limited sessions. As a whole, the constitution of 1875 met the needs of the rural state which Missouri then was.

The last quarter of the nineteenth century saw great agricultural progress in Missouri. Farm machinery was used to a greater extent than ever before. Cotton was no longer a principal crop after the slaves were freed, and farmers planted a much greater variety of crops. Manufacturing soon took its place with agriculture as a great industry of the state, and flour, meat, machine shop products, tobacco, and lumber became leading products. The year 1890 marked the end of the frontier period, and only the less desirable land was left for settlement. With the development of industry came the growth of cities, and by that time, Missouri had twenty-nine cities with a population of over 4,000.

Missouri proudly celebrated her first hundred years of progress with a Centennial Exposition in 1904 at St. Louis. In the years since the Louisiana Purchase, she had taken great strides forward. By 1911, she had voted bonds to build a stately and beautiful new capitol at Jefferson City. By 1916, she began to "pull out of the mud" and built hundreds of miles of paved high-

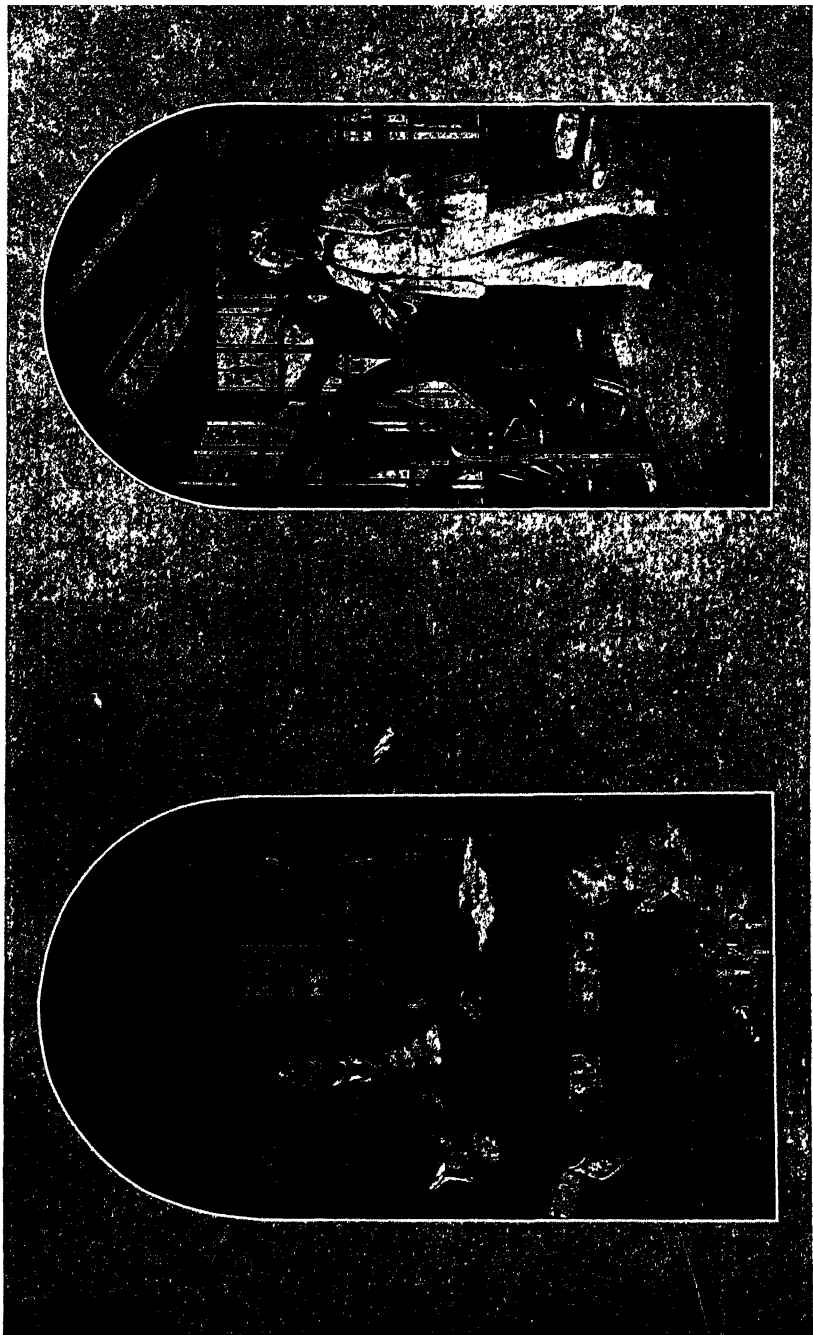


The first Capitol at Jefferson City

way with the help of the federal government. Missouri had a part in the coming age of aviation, when a group of St. Louis businessmen financed the flight of Charles Lindbergh to Paris. Through the years of the twentieth century, Missourians, like the rest of the nation, began to take a greater interest in the care of the handicapped, and built various institutions for them. Within this period, too, Missouri weathered two World Wars. She also experienced a decade of prosperity followed by one of depression, and in 1945 adopted a new constitution much better suited to her modern needs.

Today the population of Missouri is almost 3,800,000, of whom over 1,900,000 live in cities. The chief occupations of the people are agriculture, manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade, personal services, transportation and communication, and the professions.

Your inheritance from your home state includes the contributions of many of her famous citizens. Among the great military leaders from Missouri are General John J. Pershing, Admiral Robert E. Coontz, General Enoch H. Crowder, and General



Murals in the State Capitol: Eugene Field (left) and Mark Twain

Omar Bradley. In the field of literature the works of Mark Twain, Sara Teasdale, Eugene Field, and Harold Bell Wright will long be remembered. Thomas Hart Benton, Champ (James Buchanan) Clark, William Joel Stone, James A. Reed, and Harry S. Truman take their places among American statesmen. Such educators as James Greenwood, William T. Harris, Susan Blow, James Sidney Rollins, and George Washington Carver have left their imprint on the educational world. The paintings of George Caleb Bingham have made Missouri history live through the years. Joseph Pulitzer and William Rockhill Nelson both helped to shape public opinion through the pages of the newspapers they published.

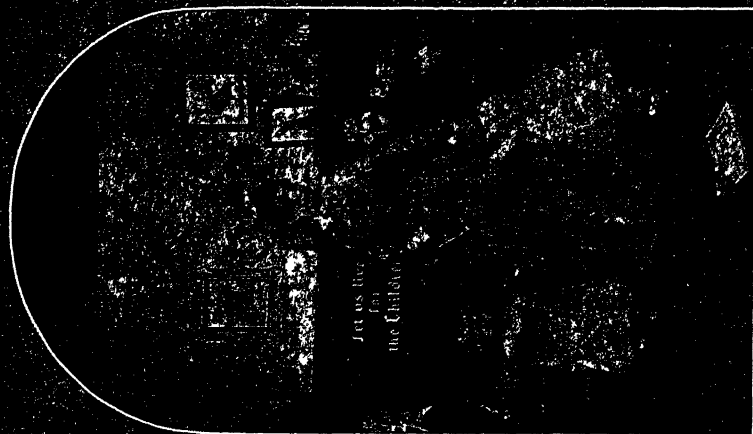
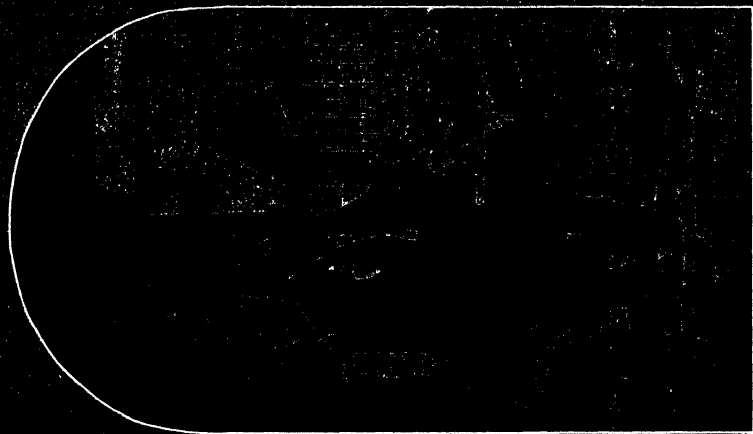
You may call Missouri by any of her nicknames—"Mother of the West," the "Show-me" state, the "Pathfinder" state, or the "Crossroads of the Nation"—yet you will always think of her with pride because of the place she holds in the nation. The state motto, "Let the Welfare of the People Be the Supreme Law," is the key to your part in shaping her future government.

YOUR CONTACT WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

You may have even more contacts with the federal government than you do with the state. A glance at the Kansas City telephone directory will show you how many branches of the federal government are located here, for their listing takes almost a four-column page.

Mr. Williams, the father of a high school freshman, is a Kansas Citian who recently had a number of contacts with the federal government in a single day. Much interested in the market news, he turned on his radio early in the morning and heard the market broadcast of the United States Department of Agriculture. He also listened to the weather forecast, which came from the weather bureau at the Municipal Airport, under the control of the Department of Commerce.

Later in the morning Mr. Williams started out to do a number



Murals in the State Capitol: James Rollins and Susan Blow

of errands. He went first to a bank, and while he stood at the teller's window, he noticed a sign above it announcing that depositors were protected by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. This meant that his own account was guaranteed up to \$5,000 by the national government against the failure of the bank.

Mr. Williams walked north from the bank to the Federal Courts Building. His first errand there was the filing of his income tax return in the Internal Revenue Division of the Treasury Department. While he was in this same building, he stopped at the office of one of the federal judges. Here he talked with the judge about his neighbor, a man who had come to the United States from Europe, and who was ready to take out his last citizenship papers. The judge told Mr. Williams that there would soon be a naturalization session in the courtroom, and invited him to be present when his neighbor and others like him would proudly become citizens of the United States.

Mr. Williams had still another contact with the federal government when he stopped to mail a package in the branch of the Post Office in the Federal Courts Building. Not only was he using the United States mails, but the money he paid for the stamps was coined in the mint at Washington, D. C., and drawn from a bank in Kansas City, so he had still another tie with the national government when he used the coins which it made.

Since he wanted to inquire concerning the insurance which he had carried as a member of the armed forces in World War I, Mr. Williams hurried over to the office of the Veterans Administration, a government service to the veterans of all wars. From there he stopped at the Rent Control Board of the Office of Price Administration (OPA) to find out the ceiling price he could charge for a room he had for rent. As the day neared a close, he walked over to the City Hall, so that he might ride home with his son who worked for the Civil Aeronautics Authority there. While he stood waiting, Mr. Williams watched with interest the

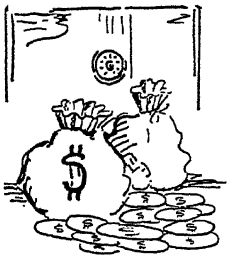
workers at their maps, spotting the location of planes and helping to make the airways safe for travel. This service, too, is provided by the federal government. Even though he may have been unconscious of how many contacts he had with the United States government in a single day, yet it had played a vital part in his activities.

There are many more ways in which Mr. Williams could have contacted the federal government at work in his city, and after studying the chart, *Federal Government in Kansas City*, possibly you can name the ways in which these various divisions touch your own life. The two branches of federal government which have offices here are the executive branch under the divisions of the President's cabinet, and the federal courts in session here.

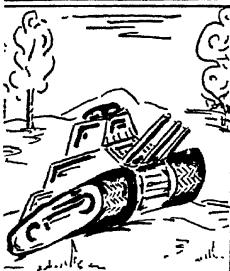
Not pictured on the chart are the legislative branch of the government, any of the federal boards and commissions, or the Federal Reserve Bank. As many as fifteen federal boards are listed in the Kansas City telephone directory. Kansas City is represented in the legislative branch of federal government in Washington by two Congressmen, one each from the fourth and fifth district of which Kansas City is a part. These two Congressmen are among the group of thirteen sent by Missouri. Missouri also sends to Washington two senators whom Kansas Citians help to elect.

The number of federal agencies in Kansas City has grown with the years. The City of Kansas completed its first federal building in 1885, erected at Ninth and Walnut Streets and called the "United States Customs House and Post Office." It was a three-story gray sandstone building having two towers and an iron fence bordering it on two sides. The "Old Town Clock" was bought by proud Kansas Citians and installed in one of the towers. This same clock is now in one of the twin towers of the Fidelity Building.

By 1900, Kansas City had outgrown this first post office building so another was built at Eighth Street and Grand Avenue.



INTERNAL REVENUE—10 OFFICES
CHIEF NATIONAL BANK EXAMINER
CUSTOMS DEPUTY COLLECTOR
DIVISION OF DISBURSEMENT
NARCOTICS BUREAU
PROCUREMENT (PUBLIC BUILDINGS)
DIVISION
UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
WAR FINANCE COMMITTEE



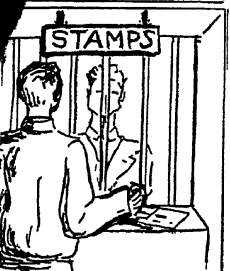
DEPARTMENT OF WAR

32 DIVISIONS OR OFFICES AMONG,
WHICH ARE
U. S. ARMY ENGINEERS
U. S. AIR CORPS
U. S. SIGNAL CORPS
U. S. RECRUITING



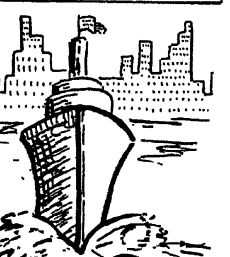
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZA-
TION
MARSHAL, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
MARSHAL, KANSAS CITY, KANSAS
U. S. ATTORNEY, KANSAS CITY,
MISSOURI
U. S. ATTORNEY, KANSAS CITY,
KANSAS
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGA-
TION



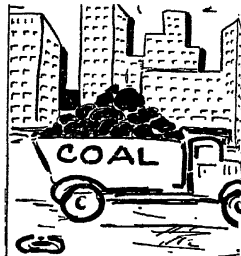
POST OFFICE

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS
INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI
POST OFFICE INSPECTOR
RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE



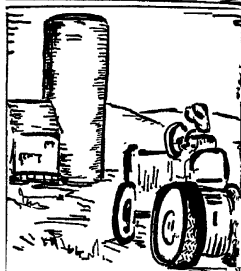
DEPARTMENT OF NAVY

13 DIVISIONS OR OFFICES AMONG
WHICH ARE
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
OF SHIP BUILDING
SHORE PATROL
RECRUITING



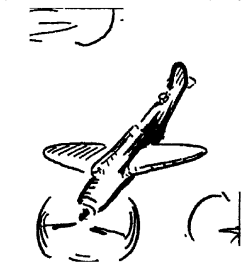
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

SOLID-FUELS ADMINISTRATION
WAR RECLAMATION AUTHORITY



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ANIMAL INDUSTRY—2 OFFICES
FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION
MILK MARKET ADMINISTRATOR
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING—50
OFFICES
COMMODITY EXCHANGE
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

CENSUS BUREAU
CIVIL AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRA-
TION—10 OFFICES
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY—2
OFFICES
FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE
OFFICE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY
WEATHER BUREAU—2 OFFICES



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
CHILDREN'S BUREAU
CONCILIATION SERVICE
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR
U. S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE—5
OFFICES



FEDERAL COURTS

U. S. DISTRICT COURT (88 IN
U. S. A.)—
3 JUDGES—APPOINTED BY
PRESIDENT WITH SENATE
APPROVAL
CASES MAY BE APPEALED TO
U. S. CIRCUIT COURT
U. S. COMMISSIONER
REFEREE IN BANKRUPTCY
U. S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

It was called the "Post Office and Customs House," and was considered a "magnificent" building, with its great dome gilded with gold leaf, its spacious halls, high ceiling, and rotunda. The building was used for thirty-three years, but at the end of that period, a new four-million dollar post office was built on West Pershing Road. Here today is handled the great amount of mail which comes to Kansas City.

In 1938, the old post office at Eighth Street and Grand Avenue was torn down to make way for a Federal Courts Building where court rooms and government offices are housed. Many of the offices listed on the chart are located in this building. A visit to it will show you some of the many things which the federal government does for you today in contrast with the few contacts which the pioneers had with their national government. Experience through the years has shown that there are some things which a central government can do much easier and more conveniently for people than they can do as individuals.

YOUR CONTACTS WITH THE WORLD

There are some people in Kansas City who occasionally may contact the governments of other nations of the world. Located here are consulates of Mexico, Cuba, and Great Britain, all of which are regional offices. The consuls in charge are representatives of their home governments, and are here to assist their countrymen who are not yet American citizens in business affairs and personal matters. To the consulates come those who need to have letters and documents interpreted or translated, wage contracts explained, or personal difficulties settled. American citizens visit the offices of the consuls to secure lists of foreign business firms and to learn the best means of transportation for shipping goods to them. It is also necessary to have travel visas made out through the consulates.

Kansas Citizens have a very direct contact with many foreign countries through the business of importing and exporting goods.

Imports consist mostly of food stuffs, but the list of exports shipped out from Kansas City includes a great number of its products, both agricultural and industrial.

Now that huge transport planes from a trans-world airline leave Kansas City airports for Paris, Geneva, Rome, and Cairo, the world is surely brought to your very doorstep. Travelers from foreign lands visit in your city. Cargo from distant ports is flown to Kansas City merchants. Horizons come startlingly close and your own contact with the world becomes a reality.

Some Exports from Kansas City—*

Machinery Agricultural machinery Scales Pumps Dairy supplies Road building equipment Diesel motors	Metal Products Steel Wire rope Culverts Bin bottoms Buckets & pails Kettles Truck bodies	Metal products Railroad equipment Gas holders Airplane hangars Tools Crates Saw mills Concrete mixers
Foods Cereals Flour Corn meal Eggs Bakery supplies Live stock Poultry	Building Supplies Cement Prefabricated buildings Waterproofing Plumbing fixtures Doors	Electrical equipment Battery chargers Automatic phonographs Electric generating plants Radios
Play equipment Golf clubs Toys Games	Drugs and pharmaceuticals Serums Insecticides	Airport & aircraft equipment Airport equipment Aircraft equipment
Furniture Cots and bunks Lamps Household furniture	Chemicals and paints Polish and wax Soaps and cleaners Finishes	Heating and ventilating Air conditioning Furnaces Boilers
Miscellaneous Seeds Greeting cards Luggage	Wearing apparel Clothing for men, women and children	Lumber Veneers Plywood Lumber

*—Selected from Un Directorio de Firmas Exporadoras de Kansas City, Missouri, E.U.A., y Sus Productos"—Chamber of Commerce, Fevrero de 1946.



13. Pick Your Candidate

PARTY POLITICS IN THE PAST

"We interrupt this program to give you the latest election returns," the voice of the announcer says over the radio. Thousands of Kansas Citians then listen intently to catch the results of city elections. Within a few hours after the closing of the polls, interested citizens are able to learn the outcome of a strenuous political campaign and which candidates won. Through the flick of a switch and the turn of a dial, history is known almost as it is made. Even though thousands upon thousands of secret ballots are cast in Kansas City during a municipal election today, yet their count is known within a few hours after the polls close.

Strange as it may seem, there was a time in the history of this city when there were only 67 ballots cast in an election, and these were spoken rather than written. It was in 1853, the year of the first city election, that a crier, employed by the city, called out the name and the vote of the 67 citizens choosing the first mayor, council, and town marshal. The crier was hired because of a state law, in force since 1845, which provided that election officials should "cry in an audible voice, the vote of each elector given in." An ordinance allowed the crier "for serving as judge and crier of election for two days \$2.00 and for Room rent, Candles, and firewood, etc. \$1.50." No time was needed to tally the votes, for when the 67th voter had cried his choice at the end of the second day, the count was in.

Kansas City's first election was different from a modern one in the number of votes and the method of their casting. Missouri's constitution of 1868 changed the manner of voting for Kansas Citians by making voting by ballot a legal requirement. The expense of the first election amounted to \$3.50—about five cents for each voter. Elections today, however, cost thousands of dollars, frequently more than a dollar a voter.

In the earliest days of the town's history, political feeling ran high, yet party politics were not the only considerations in electing city officials. Civic pride played an important part also,

for the mayor of the frontier settlement received no salary, but held office only because of his interest in the community's welfare. The first council met only four times a year to transact the business of the small town. Special council meetings could be called, however, when the need arose. Such a one was held at 7:30 one morning when plans were to be made for welcoming Senator Thomas Hart Benton and his party at the boat landing of the City of Kansas. The mayor appointed a committee to meet the steamboat at Randolph Bluff, the site of Chouteau's first warehouse, to escort Benton's party to the Union Hotel, and arrange for his speaking engagements both in the City of Kansas and in Westport.

While many pioneer citizens living here came from the South and usually voted the Democratic ticket, yet Kansas City has had almost as many Republican as Democratic administrations during its political history. From 1860 to 1946, out of a total of forty-four mayors there were twenty-four Democratic, seventeen Republican, and four non-partisan.

The Republican party gained its first importance here during the 1870's, following the close of the Civil War. Southern Democrats still felt the bitterness of war and held the memory of the "test oath." For several terms the Republican ticket carried the city.

There were many stirring chapters in Kansas City's history furnished by the excitement of political events. Local, state, and national party victories were the occasions for barbecues, torchlight parades, and public fireworks. In 1876, when Democrats won victories in Ohio and Indiana, Kansas City Democrats felt that their local position was strengthened and held a great political feast at the fair grounds to celebrate the victory. Few barbecues have equalled this famous occasion, when 25,000 people were entertained by five brass bands and fiery political orators. Seventeen oxen, one hundred and twenty-five sheep, and forty hogs were barbecued in open pits to feed the hungry throng,

which also consumed 4,000 loaves of bread, hundreds of chickens, pies, cakes, and barrels of beer.

Again, eight years later, when Grover Cleveland was elected President, a colorful torchlight parade several miles long marched through the streets of the City of Kansas. Bonfires blazed at the market square and in vacant lots along the parade route. The city fire department followed the parade, too, so that they could put out the fires before they could do any damage. People in carriages, hacks, farm wagons, and buggies were part of the procession. Dashing rough riders carrying barnyard roosters brought this Democratic symbol before the crowd in a vivid manner.

Since politics often reflect national trends, both Republican and Democratic officials have had their turn at controlling the city government. By the turn of the century a difference of opinion arose in the local Democratic ranks. The party separated into two groups nicknamed the "Rabbits" and the "Goats." The first group are supposed to have been so named because one of their leaders walked with a peculiar gait like that of a loping rabbit. The second, the "Goats," were so named because many of their number climbed to their homes on the steep bluffs above the river. For nearly twenty-five years this difference of opinion continued between the two groups, and even resulted in a so-called "riot" at a party convention in 1924. However, both groups managed to forget their differences long enough to unite against Republican candidates, just as Republicans ignored party disputes and united against the Democrats.

Republican officials once again were elected to city office in 1924, and celebrated their victory with a big parade. So triumphant were they that one of their number mounted a ledge above the Main Street side of the old City Hall and swept it with a broom. A Republican bystander shouted, "That's a new broom—it sweeps clean." Another added, "We're going to use it on the inside of the building in a few days." And since the spoils sys-

tem was popular at that time, his prophecy probably came true.

But it was not long before the opposing party again put its members into control of the city government. Through the years in Kansas City, as well as in many other large cities, strong political organizations, or inner party groups for handling political affairs, have been built up. At each head was a leader who rewarded party workers with jobs and favors, placed city contracts with political "friends," and collected assessments or "lugs" from all who held city jobs. Under the control of such a group, Kansas City government by the people reached a low ebb. Registration lists were padded, "ghost" votes were cast, and there were election-day killings.

It was believed by some citizens that the adoption of a new charter would release the city from the grip of the political inner groups, but this was not achieved until 1940. Long before that time, however, citizens were aroused at the irregularities in government which existed. In 1937, a Federal Grand Jury began an investigation which resulted in the prosecution of those who had voted dishonestly. By 1938, voters, anxious for a change of government, organized the Charter Party and placed a new ticket before the voters.

Public sentiment endorsed this ticket as a means of cleaning up the city government. Many Democratic and Republican members joined the Charter Party, and aided by various women's organizations, they formed a United Campaign Committee which succeeded in 1940 in electing a mayor and seven out of the eight councilmen. A year and a half later, approximately 4,000 employees had been cut from the city payroll, the tax levy was reduced, and the customary deficit in the city treasury was turned into a sizeable surplus. In the next three succeeding municipal elections, the voters of Kansas City again elected the Citizen's party ticket to office.

Today's party politics in Kansas City no longer follow

strictly national party lines, but are united in favor of efficient city government.

THE LOCAL POLITICAL SCENE

Government by the people requires both time and energy. In pioneer days, it was possible for a man to be a good blacksmith and still be town clerk. A miller could find time to be the local chairman of his party committee. A banker might consent to serve as mayor. But as small communities gave way to large cities and life became more complex, the average citizen left the business of government to party officials. Party organizations then took over the reins and made politics a business. "Active" party workers replaced the "passive" busy, or indifferent citizen.

In Kansas City, as elsewhere, political parties are really governments within governments. Through the efforts of party workers, precinct captains, and county committeemen, party organizations propose their candidates, conduct campaigns, man the polls, and get out the voters.

The following chart shows the membership of the two major political parties, with the precinct captains at the bottom of the ladder and the national committee at the top.

Precincts are divisions of the city whose boundaries are set by the board of election commissioners for the purpose of conducting registrations and elections. There are 463 precincts of about 500 voters each in Kansas City. The city is also divided into 20 larger districts called wards.

Each political party tries to have a committee member in every election district. Since 1923, Missouri has had equal representation of men and women on the committees of party organizations. In Kansas City, committeemen are often ward leaders or precinct captains, and through them, the voter has his first contact with the party of his choice. He and his helpers make a house to house canvass of the neighborhood and line up the voters. The precinct captain is often expected to become the

ORGANIZATION OF EACH POLITICAL PARTY IN YOUR CITY, STATE, AND NATION

National Committee—

2 members from Missouri

State Committee—52 members

4 from each of 13 districts in
Missouri

District Committees—Kansas City is
in 4th and 5th Districts, 4 members from
each district, 8 in all

Jackson County Committee—70 members—40
from 20 wards, 30 from 14 townships (4
from Blue Township)

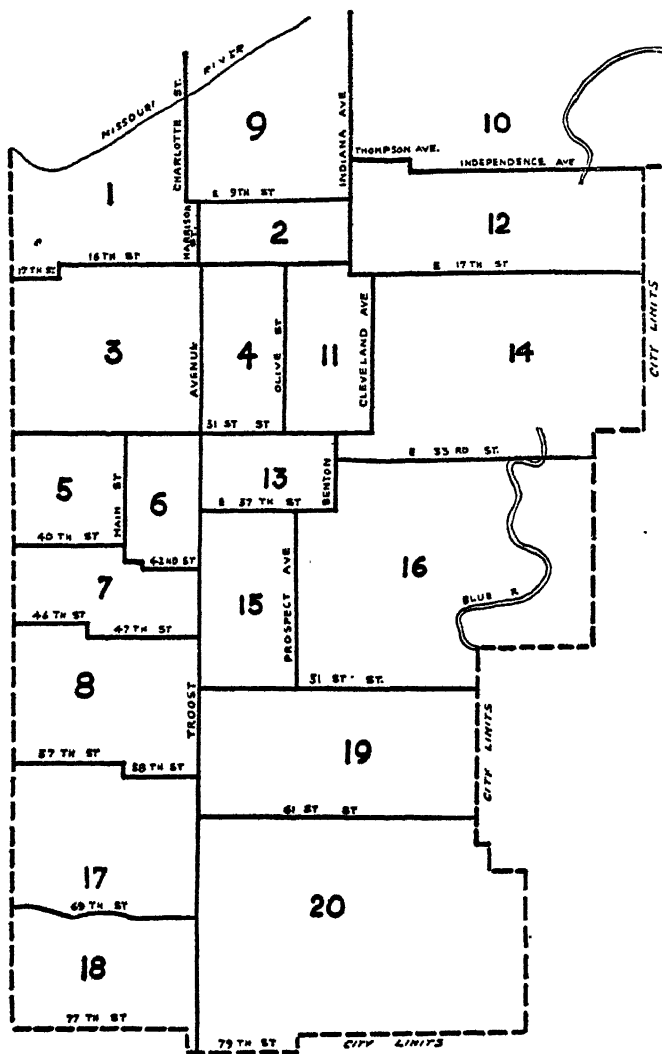
Ward Committees in Kansas City—
40 members—20 men, 20 women

Precinct Captains in Kansas City—463

“friend in need” of the residents of his district, and furnish everything from food for the unemployed to advice for those in trouble.

In describing how a precinct captain gains a following in his district, a Tammany leader in New York City, who rose to the state legislature, said in *Plunkitt of Tammany Hall*:

“There’s only one way to hold a district; you must study human nature and act accordin’. You can’t study human nature in books To learn real human nature you have to go among the people, see them and be seen. I know every man, woman, and child in the Fifteenth District, except them that’s been born this summer—and I know some of them, too. I know what they like and what they don’t like, what they are strong at and they are



The ward map of Kansas City

weak in, and I reach them by approachin' at the right side I hear of a young feller that's proud of his voice, thinks that he can sing fine. I ask him to come around and join our Glee Club. He comes and sings, and he's a follower of Plunkitt for life. An-

other young feller gains a reputation as a baseball player in a vacant lot. I bring him into our baseball club. That fixes him. You'll find him workin' for my ticket at the polls next election day I rope them all in by giving them opportunities to show themselves off. I don't trouble them with political arguments. I just study human nature and act accordin'."

And the words of George Washington Plunkitt could easily apply to party leadership in Kansas City or any other place. Since party politics must be in the hands of "active" politicians, effective precinct captains and ward leaders follow Plunkitt's advice and become acquainted with all the voters in their district.

Committee women today are also important workers in party organization. They work particularly among the women voters of an election district. So necessary are their duties that a national political party outlined them as follows:

1. Arrange for a neighborhood discussion group to meet each month. Enroll precinct volunteers as reporters and send their names to National Headquarters. They will receive current information on what the government is doing for the people.

2. See that the voters and precinct workers have the benefit of authentic information brought by the party digest straight from the Nation's Capitol on the Administration's policies and program.

3. Hold a neighborhood listening-in party when Administration leaders go on the air. Remember, "Campaigns are Won Between Elections."

4. Good organization, like good government, is a continuing responsibility and is necessary if we are to translate political ideals into reality. Each precinct leader should find out and keep a record of how many in her precinct are Democrats, how many are Republicans, how many are independent voters, and how many it is necessary to win to the party banner in order to carry the precinct on election day. It is not too early to organize now to win these votes. It is a big task if undertaken

alone, but light work if the last three points of the precinct plan are put into action.

5. Enlist a corps of Visitors to make a systematic canvass of the precinct and supply neighborhood voters with party facts. *Facts to the voters every day—sample ballots election day.*

6. Appoint a head of the Motor Corps to help Visitors register citizens and organize to get the voters to the polls.

7. And finally, raise the small sum needed for postage, telephone, and gasoline by getting the head of the Party Banks to place them with precinct workers. These Banks have proved an effective and permanent means of collecting small contributions.

In picking their candidates for city elections many years ago, political parties in Kansas City held ward and city conventions. These were very important to local politicians, and feeling ran high. However, this method of choice proved not altogether satisfactory, and party committee leaders began to use the direct primary and conduct it under the board of election commissioners. In the direct primary, voters could select by ballot the candidates whose names they wished placed on the election ballot. By 1925, the new charter required that all nominations for city offices be made through a primary.

There are some problems and disadvantages, however, in the use of the primary. Holding two elections is certainly more expensive than holding one. Many voters have the mistaken idea that it doesn't matter whether or not they vote at a primary, believing that it is only the election itself which is important. For this reason, it has been possible for political machines to control many of the elections in the past. In order to have good city government, voters must realize the need to vote at the primaries.

Who should vote in Kansas City elections is determined by the laws of the state of Missouri. As far back as 1895, a statute was passed which set up the qualifications for voting which are in use today. These originally declared that any male citizen twenty-one years of age who had been a resident in the state one year and

in the city sixty days was eligible to vote. The only change since that time came when women's suffrage was adopted.

Before any voter can cast a ballot, he must be registered—that is, his name, place of birth, color, address, occupation, signature, and his length of residence in the state and city must be placed on the official registration list. This information becomes a permanent record for voting lists today.

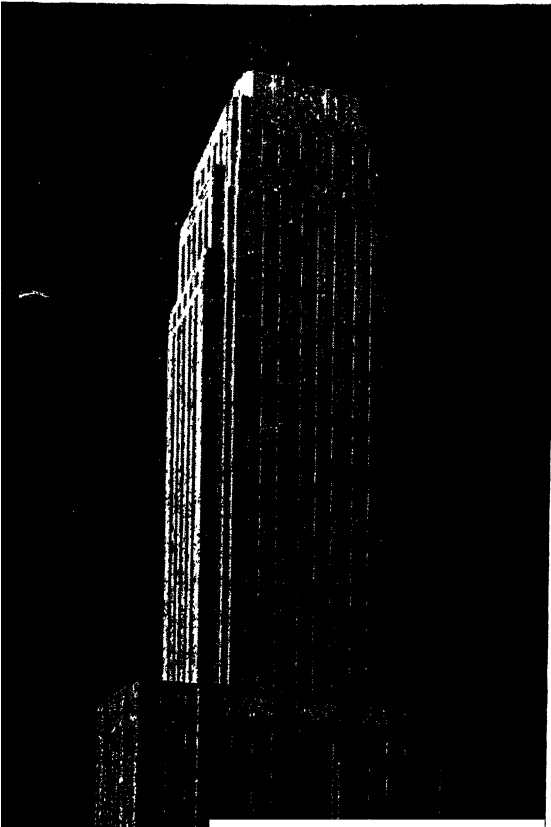
Registration in Kansas City used to take place every four years under the direction of a board of election commissioners. This board appointed four judges and two clerks for each precinct, the judges acting as registrars and the clerks canvassing the precinct to check any names that had been challenged. This method of registration proved very expensive, however, and was replaced in 1937 by permanent registration. When once a voter has placed his name on the list, it is not necessary to register again as long as he continues to live in the precinct and votes at least once every four years. If he moves, before he can vote he must transfer his registration. This may be done by mailing the change to the office of the election commissioners in the Jackson County Court House. The only additions to permanent registration lists are young people coming of age, recently naturalized citizens, and those who have moved into the community.

As a future voter, you will be interested in knowing when and how elections are held in your city. Local elections come in the spring in contrast to those of the state and nation which take place in the fall. Polling places for each precinct are set up throughout the city. For these, empty storerooms, garages, church basements, hotel lobbies, stores and business establishments are sometimes rented. The polls are open from six in the morning until seven in the evening. Voting instructions are posted within the polling place, but sample ballots or campaign literature cannot be distributed nearer than a distance of one hundred feet from the entrance to the polls.

Election duties are divided among various officials. Election

clerks and judges are paid by the city, and challengers by the party they represent. Any person who a challenger suspects is voting illegally may be asked to answer certain questions on oath to prove his identity. At the close of the long election day, weary judges and clerks must remain often several hours to count the votes. This is done in the presence of an officer of the law. After the votes are tallied, the ballot boxes are delivered to the board of election commissioners at the court house, and the returns announced.

In spite of the many efforts made to provide good election machinery, yet it is still true that many Kansas Citizens do not exercise the privilege of voting. In past years, often less than one half of the eligible voters cast their ballots. For some special



The City Hall

where your

candidates

manage city

business

elections, the count was as low as ten per cent. Good citizenship is easy to talk about, but sometimes difficult to practice. The man who says he is too busy to vote may be the first to complain of bad city government, but the last to do anything about it. The woman who declares that her husband does the voting for the family wants her children to grow up in a progressive city, yet may be unwilling to cast her ballot for civic improvements. The person who says his vote won't make any difference is a menace to government because of his attitude. Good government can exist only when its citizens express their opinions freely by voting at the primaries and other elections. Only when Kansas Citizens exercise the right to vote can they hope to keep alive the democratic spirit of the pioneers who founded this city.

THE ROLE OF PUBLIC OPINION

Besides the work of political parties in Kansas City, there are various organizations in the community which exert an influence on local government. While they were not organized for this purpose, yet they have the interests of the city at heart and work for its betterment. There are groups concerned with the development of business, the advancement of the professions, the location of new industries here, and the improvement of living conditions. Among these are the Chamber of Commerce, the American Federation of Labor, the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the National Association of Manufacturers, the Lawyers' Association of Kansas City, the Kansas City Bar Association, the Business and Professional Women's Club, the Jackson County Medical Association, and the Real Estate Board. There are other groups interested in patriotism and social betterment, such as the American Legion, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Council of Social Agencies, the Parent-Teacher Association, religious organizations, the Urban League, and various other welfare leagues. There is a third group active in Kansas City in promoting good government, including such or-



Where the tax dollar went in 1941

ganizations as the Citizens' Association, the Kansas City League of Women Voters, the Woman's City Club, the University Clubs, and others.

All of the various civic groups, whether they are local or branches of national organizations, have worked through the years to influence government by influencing its officials. Their activities between elections play a vital part in shaping public

opinion. Through their educational programs, fact-finding committees, announcements through the press and radio, and their speaker's bureaus, they mold the thoughts and direct the actions of many voting citizens.

Government reforms in Kansas City have been brought about by the pressure of civic groups and the power of the press. Recreational areas have been increased by the force of popular demand. Conditions in reformatories and penal institutions have been greatly improved because of the strength of public opinion.

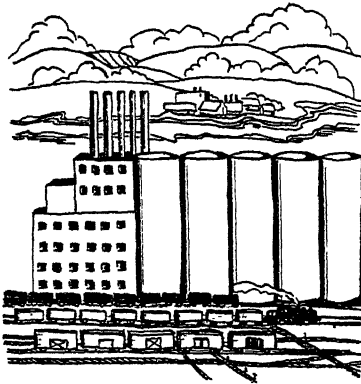
Not only does the public influence the government, but the government in turn influences the public. Modern city government tries to show to the people the value of its activities. For example, in 1941 the city government sponsored the K. C. Municipal Show as a method of arousing citizen interest. Some forty thousand people attended the show and peered behind the scenes of local government. They learned what could be accomplished by having in office men who are well-trained in handling city affairs. Through movies, models, exhibits, charts, and quizzes Kansas Citians were shown the workings of city departments, the council, the courts, and the commissions of city government. Many citizens, through this show, saw their local government working as a whole, and realized more than ever the need to vote wisely. Many carried away with them an appreciation of the responsibility which was theirs in assuming a public trust. Through this means of education, picking a candidate then became of greater personal interest to every voter.

Eternal vigilance is still the price of human liberty! Kansas City will remain a city with a democratic government only so long as each voter maintains an alert and informed interest in his government. Otherwise, he may awake too late to realize his loss!



Part 4 How You Can Help Develop Your Community Resources

- 14. Rocks, Rivers and Riches
- 15. Previewing Your Job
- 16. Your Money's Worth
- 17. Charting The City's Needs



14. Rocks, Rivers And Riches

A CAVE IN THE CLIFF

Voices rang out across the bluffs on Cliff Drive from a group of boys on a Saturday hike. Their song stopped abruptly when the boys heard the shout of Pete Mallory, who had climbed farther down the hillside than the others.

"Hey, fellows! Look what I've found!" he yelled.

"What is it—a snake?" called Lane Gregg, as the boys scrambled over the rocks and through the brush to join Pete.

"No, it's not a snake—it's the entrance to a cave!" Pete answered excitedly. "Look here!" and he lifted aside the tangled vines which hid the opening to a small cavern.

As the last of the boys plunged down the hillside, he found the group peering into a dark tunnel with large rocks on each side of its entrance and a limestone ledge for its roof.

"Hey! Let's go inside!" Pete called out. "Anybody want to come along?"

The rush of boys to the entrance answered his question. They all crowded eagerly around the small opening.

"I'm the guy who found it," Pete broke in, "and I ought to be the first to go in it."

"Yes, that's right, Pete, you and Joe go," Lane said, and the others agreed. "We can't all go at once," he continued, "It's too small. We'll wait for you."

The entrance to the cave was scarcely four feet high and the boys had to stoop to enter it.

"Take it easy, and don't let the bears get you," one boy teased.

While the group waited, they could hear the fall of loose rocks as Pete and Joe made their way through the darkness of the cave. They caught the flicker of a flashlight as they looked closely into the opening, but in a few seconds, it was lost. The boys scarcely had time to settle themselves on the hillside be-

fore Pete and Joe were back. They had been in the cave no more than three minutes.

"Was it wet inside?" "What could you see?" "Were there any bats?" "Did you have to crawl?" their friends wanted to know.

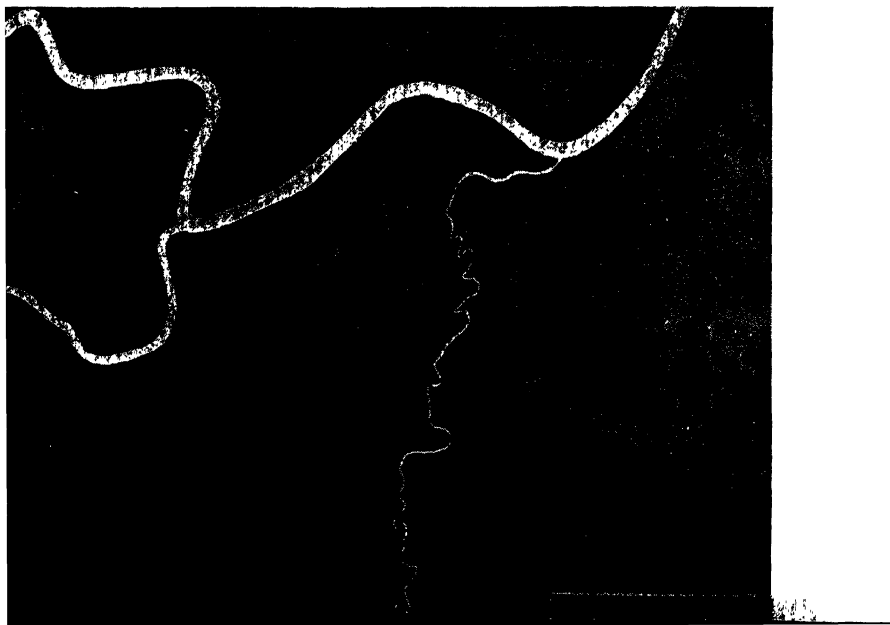
"Oh, it's not a very big cave. There isn't any water in it. It's not even high enough to stand up in," Pete replied. "But look! While I was feeling my way along the sides, this rock came loose in my hand," and he showed it to the other boys.

"That's limestone—I wonder if it has any fossils in it," said Art, as he reached for the rock.

"Okay, take a look, but you can see there aren't any. And don't forget to give it back, either. I'm working on my Merit Badge for Rocks and Minerals and I want to keep it. If you want one, crawl in and get your own," Pete told Art.

Art was not the only boy to explore the cave later, for each member of the troop wanted the adventure, as well as a souvenir rock for his collection. While climbing around the bluffs, the

The topography of Greater Kansas City



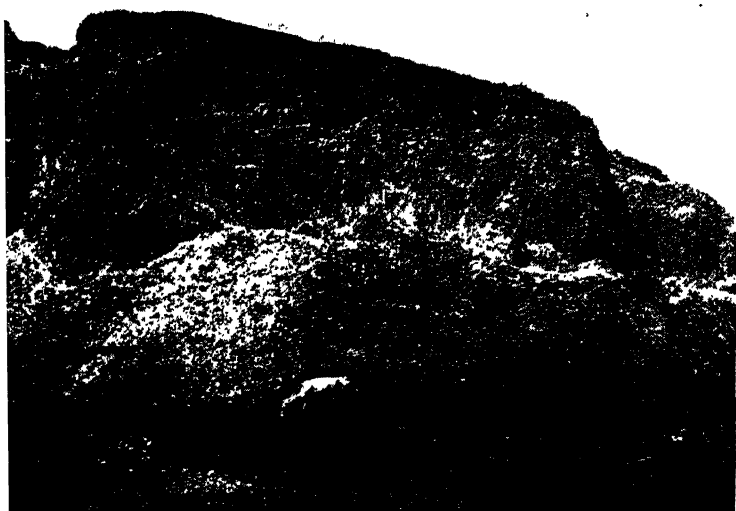
boys found many interesting rock specimens. At dusk, when the hike was over, they separated for their own homes, but agreed to meet in the science room of their high school after their last class the following Monday. Here they could boast of their discovery of the cave in the cliff, and get some help in classifying the rocks which they had collected.

BENEATH THE EARTH'S CRUST

The story that the boys read in the rocks is one that was written in this region millions of years ago. It was written before man inhabited the earth. It was written before there were any plants or animals living upon it. It was written when a sheet of ice a mile deep covered this area as far south as the Missouri River. And it was written by waters covering the earth's surface and mountains rising from the sea time and time again through the ages.

It all began perhaps 1,000 million years ago. That far back in the earth's history the region surrounding Kansas City stood high above the surface of the sea. As the crust of the earth cooled, masses of melted rocks hardened into red and gray granite which can be found 2,000 feet below the ground in the Kansas City area. Each time that the land was covered by water, deposits of sediment were left on the top of the granite. These deposits of sea life or bits of plants and shells formed the limestone and shale upon which Kansas City is built. The plants and sea creatures became coated with the lime from the clear water in which they lived, and formed limestone, while the muddy waters left layers of shale or clay.

The different layers of rock in the bluffs along the river banks of Kansas City are proof of the fact that many, many times the land here was submerged in the sea and rose again, for each layer is a new crust of earth. Not seen, but nevertheless lying beneath the city's surface, are several thin seams of coal. These were formed during a period millions of years ago known



A bluff of loess deposit

as the coal age, when receding waters left swamps where giant ferns and mosses grew in dense jungles. As all this rich vegetable matter decayed or bogged down in the swamps and was covered with the pressure of other sediment, it dried and formed coal. However, these veins of coal lie so far beneath the city and are so thin that it is not practical to mine them.

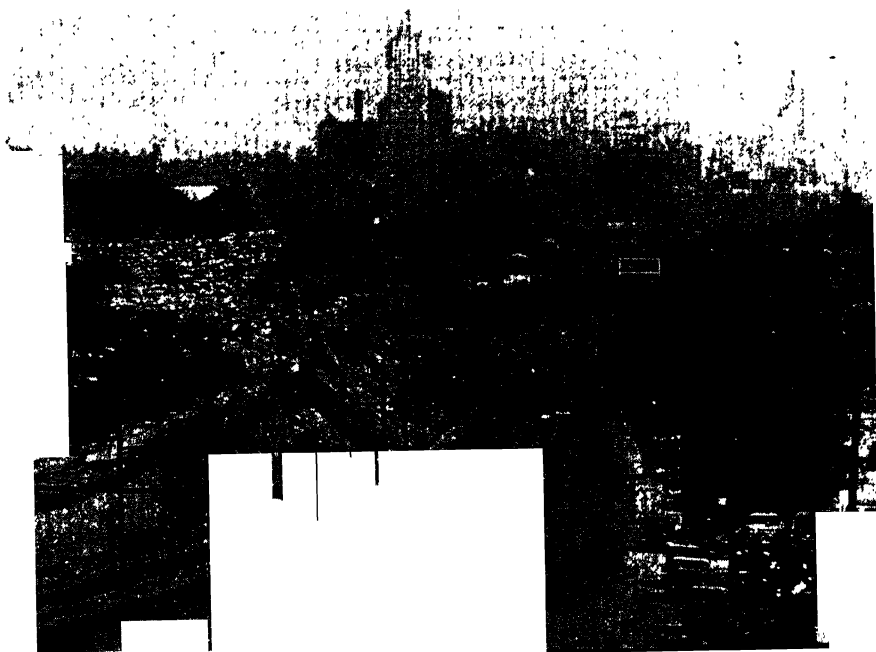
The soil, or "rock meal," in which crops are grown in the area surrounding Kansas City is of three kinds: clay, alluvial, and loess, and each kind came from a different source. Clay was formed from the weathering of shale deposits of prehistoric days, left by receding flood waters. Alluvial soil was brought here by the melted waters of a number of glaciers. Two in particular were very important to Kansas City. The first glacier, the Nebraskan, did not push this far south, but as it melted it formed streams which washed down and deposited huge drifts of gravel and boulders. The hill at Twenty-eighth Street and Southwest Boulevard between Turkey Creek and the Kaw is one place where you can find an example of this material. The second ice sheet, the Kansas, brought with it loose soil and gravel as

far as the Missouri River, which was as far south as it spread. It is thought by some that loess soil was formed when rocks in northern Missouri and Iowa were worn away through the centuries by wind and weather and their rock soil carried by winds to Kansas City hillsides.

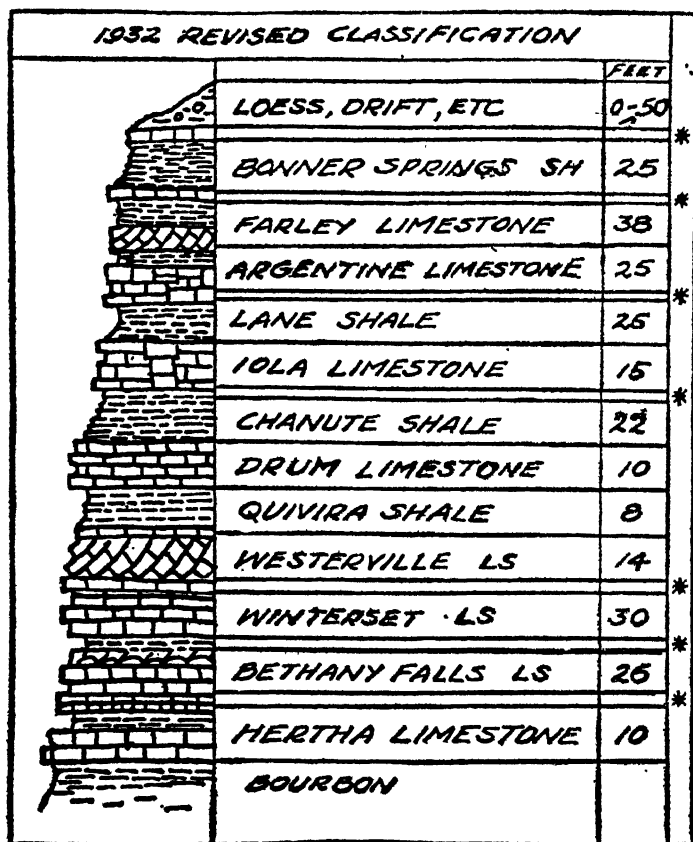
The kind of soil in any area is determined by the kind of rocks that make it. Limestone weathers into the rich, fertile soil which is found in the truck gardens of Missouri River bottom lands. Shale and feldspar weather into clay, such as forms the bluffs through which Kansas City streets had to be cut. The rocks shaped millions of years ago gave us the soil upon which we have built a city.

You, too, can read the Kansas City story written in rocks if you were to go to find various outcroppings. Just as you can see the rings in a tree stump telling the age of the tree, you can also see the different strata or layers of rocks in ledges in or

Rock strata in the Main Street cut



around Kansas City. A visit to Swope Park will show you outcroppings of two of the oldest strata exposed in Kansas City. The oldest is Hertha limestone in the road cut just north of the Lake of the Woods. The next oldest visible limestone strata, Bethany Falls, can be seen just south of the zoo where the foot-path leads to the lagoon. Other outcroppings of this same kind can be seen at the Hannibal Bridge, at Twenty-ninth Street and Southwest Boulevard, at Twenty-fourth and Fairmount Streets, and at Sheffield. Winterset limestone, the next oldest layer, can



SKETCH SHOWING PRINCIPAL GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS EXPOSED IN KANSAS CITY—LESSER FORMATIONS OMITTED. THE CHART IS NOT TO SCALE AND THE FIGURES INDICATE AVERAGE THICKNESS.

be seen along the lower parts of the bluffs in the valleys of the Big and Little Blue Rivers. Next in age to this layer is the Westerville limestone, which forms the bluffs above Kersey Coates Drive and the Sixth Street Trafficway.

Perhaps the best place in the city to see the greatest numbers of rock ledges upon which it has been built is the Main Street cut east of Memorial hill. Beginning at the north end, just above street level, you will find Quivera shale. Next above is the Drum limestone ledge. Continuing upward you can see layers of Chanut shale, Iola limestone, Lane shale, and the base of the Argentine limestone formation. The Iola and Argentine ledges outcrop again west of Memorial hill in Penn Valley Park. To see a good example of loess soil, go to the high clay bluffs along the Missouri River or to Lydia and Guinotte Streets. Loess soil is found in most of Kansas City to an average depth of sixteen feet. Nature left her diary in the imprints of plant and animal life upon the rocks through millions of years. You can read pages from this diary by examining the hundreds of fossils collected here and now found in the Hare collection at the Kansas City Museum.

AS THE RIVERS ROLL

"Running water," Theodore Roosevelt once said, "is the most valuable natural asset of the people." Kansas City's history proves that statement to be true here, for the bend in the Missouri River is one of the important reasons for the location of your city. The Missouri, the Kaw, and the Blue Rivers have all proved themselves assets to the growth of this community.

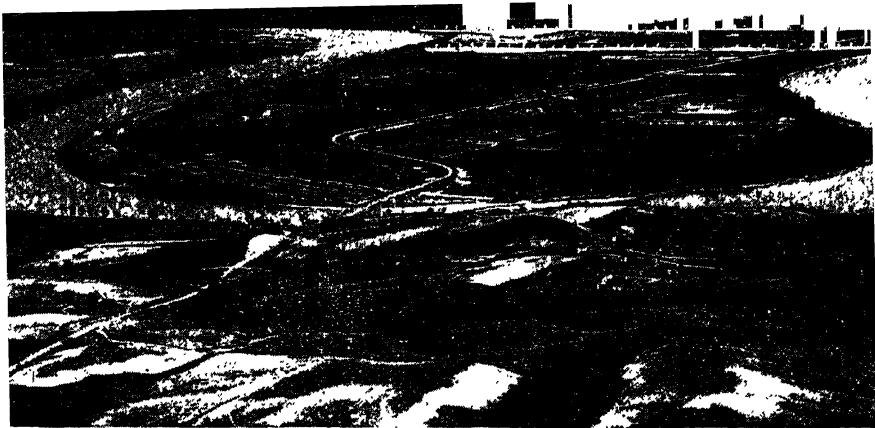
For over a hundred years, as the Missouri River has rolled on its way to join the Mississippi, it has helped to shape the various stages of Kansas City's development. From the days of the traders and trappers, through the golden age of steamboat days, and on to the era of modern barge transportation, the Missouri has been a highway leading to and from Kansas City. It

is not surprising that a great city grew at this bend of the Missouri, when you think of the connection between this particular bend and the commerce of the prairies. If the bend had been farther north or west, a city might have grown there rather than on the site of Kansas City. Since traders and merchants bound for Santa Fe and the West sought the longest possible water haul for the shipment of their cargo, they soon found that this bend of the river would have to be their starting point. A few outfitters tried going farther up the river, but discovered that they would have to return to the bend in the Missouri where it is joined by the Kaw because of swollen streams that must be forded in their westward journey. This bend of the river which served as a starting place for Santa Fe schooners, as well as the natural rock ledge on the south bank around which river currents swirled, deepening the water for boat landings, made an ideal wharf for shipping. In this way the Missouri River played an important part in the life of your city.

Railroads, however, dimmed the glory of the river during the years of their expansion. For a long period, there was little river traffic, but shortly before the first World War, shippers who were anxious to cut down the cost of shipping by rail turned to the river. In 1912, the first barge docked in Kansas City. Today several barges ply the river, and plans for its future development include the use of many more.

Besides being an asset to Kansas City, the Missouri River was also a barrier to be overcome. The bridging of the river was a necessary part of the city's progress. The Hannibal, first bridge to span the river, gave the City of Kansas its lead over rival communities. The opening of the A-S-B bridge led to the development of the industrial section of North Kansas City, and when it was made a free bridge, suburban tracts in Clay and Platte counties furnished homesites for many who work here.

Flood waters of the Missouri, too, have been a natural barrier to the city's development, and have had to be overcome by



A proposed plan to take a hairpin bend out of the Missouri River south of Liberty

careful planning and at a tremendous cost. From the time in 1826 when Francois Chouteau was forced to move his fur trading post to higher land because of the swirling waters of a raging river, to the horrors of the 1903 flood and the damaging waters of 1944, the Missouri River has needed to be controlled. Today, army engineers are building a levee and a flood wall stretching from the A-S-B bridge to a point westward at the river bend. This project is a part of the great plan to control the Missouri River from its headwaters in Montana to its mouth in the Mississippi Delta.

Kansas City is partly surrounded on three sides by rivers. While the Missouri bounds it on the north, the Kaw furnishes part of its western boundary and the Blue outlines its eastern rim. The Kaw is one of the largest tributaries of the Missouri, and it played an important part in the settlement of Kansas towns along its banks. These towns benefited by the trade of freight and excursion boats sailing up the Kaw as far as Manhattan from Westport Landing or Wyandotte, as Kansas City, Kansas, was once called. The river was spanned by bridges during the railroad fever of the sixties, after the state legislature declared the stream unfit for navigation, and the days of steamboats on the Kaw were over.

While the Kaw seems a quiet stream, it actually is a dangerous

one with tricky under-surface currents, believed by some to be caused by an underground river flowing beneath it. The Kaw has not always followed the course it does today. During flood time, its waters have overflowed to do much damage, and people have feared its raging torrents for many years.

By 1911, strong dikes had been built for flood control of the Kaw, making an overflow from an ordinary flood almost impossible. Periodic strengthening of the dikes and extending the height of the concrete walls has held the Kaw within its channels. In many places, the dikes are thirty-five feet high.

The bridging of the Kaw in many places has linked the two cities, Kansas City, Missouri, and Kansas City, Kansas, closer together, and has made each a part of Greater Kansas City's business and civic interests.

Winding its way through a brush-covered valley along Kansas City's eastern limits is the Blue River. This stream, only fifty miles long, has its source in Johnson County, Kansas, flows northeast, and empties into the Missouri River near Mt. Washington. Ten smaller streams empty into the Blue. One of its ancient bends made before the glacial period was cut off by engineers to form the lagoon at Swope Park. The Blue River is a terraced stream in Swope Park and the lagoon lies on the "terrace." For a time the Blue served as an open sewer and was a menace to the city's health, but in 1923 a sewer system and a dam were built in an effort to correct this condition.

As early as 1918, George Kessler, who planned Kansas City's park system, had a dream of beautifying the banks of the Blue River, and after the construction of the sewer, many Kansas Citians were interested in making this dream a reality. It included plans for a waterway to Swope Park, and a boulevard skirting its banks. Boat races were mentioned as a possibility, as well as canoeing and swimming. However, these plans were never carried out, and the only uses to which the Blue is put today are to furnish water for certain industrial plants along its

banks and to carry off the waters of the streams emptying into it.

The appearance of the Blue as a peaceful little river is proved false during flood time, for then it leaves its banks and sweeps before it everything in its path. A serious flood occurred in 1928, and the people of Kansas City realized that its channel must be deepened and widened. Funds from the Ten Year Plan, with federal aid, were used from 1937-40 for flood control of the Blue River. Its channel was straightened and deepened to help control waters swollen by heavy rains. There is still a need today for more rip-rapping and beautifying along the banks of the Blue River.

Rivers have brought to Kansas City a wealth of commerce, an increase in population, a growth in industry, and an abundant water supply. They have also brought adventure and tragedy. Since they are natural assets as well as valuable resources, it is

The Blue River in flood season



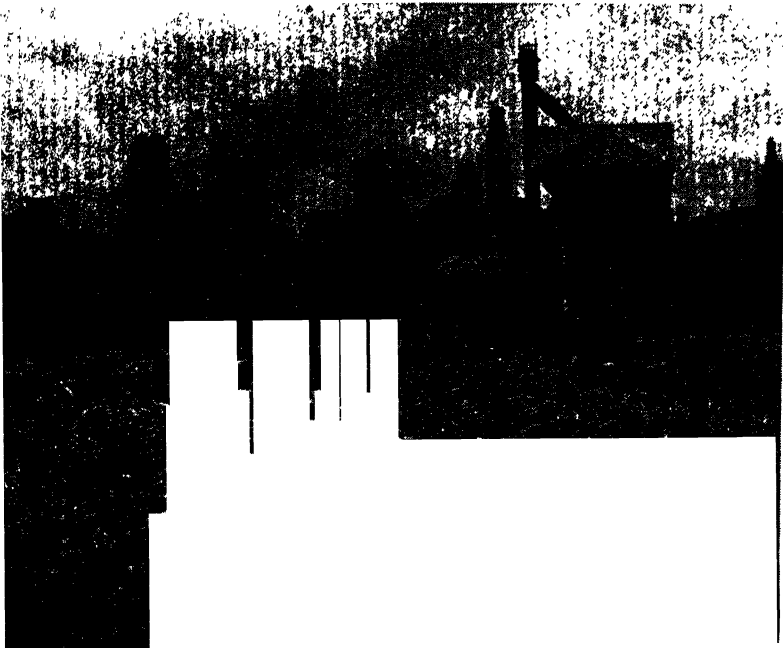
your responsibility as a future citizen to see that rivers are controlled and developed for the betterment of the community.

USING NATURE'S TREASURES

A great storehouse of nature's treasure has been given to Kansas City, for it is located between the Great Plains region producing wheat, grass, and cattle, and the corn growing region of the Mississippi Valley where food for fattening the cattle is raised. Kansas City's geographical location, its resources, and its climate all influence the lives of its people.

Among its natural treasures, Kansas City counts the fertile soil of the region surrounding it. The variety of vegetables from truck gardens, the ripe fruit of orchards, the nourishing grains of western prairies, the fat cattle grazing on pasture lands, and the rich products of dairies all make Kansas City the center

A harvest scene near Kansas City



of a great agricultural area. Far beneath the earth's surface in south Missouri and neighboring states lie mineral beds which may also be considered part of Kansas City's treasure. Minerals and fuels necessary to industrial development are shipped here, including lead, zinc, iron, bauxite, silver, copper, cobalt, nickel, tungsten, and coal. Oil and gas are piped to this city from adjoining counties and southwestern fields. Building stone and slate are quarried nearby, while cement is made here from local clay and limestone deposits. A special kind of clay found in Missouri River banks is used for making bricks. In the past, its natural resources have shaped Kansas City's growth. Conserving them, therefore, becomes a part of Kansas City's plans for the future.

Climate, too, has influenced your city's growth. Kansas City enjoys a temperate climate. At the Union Station, Kansas City's latitude is 39°07' North and its longitude is 94°35' West. The city's highest temperature ever recorded was 113° and its lowest 23° below zero, while its average high is 98° and its average low 40°. The official elevation at Twelfth Street and Grand Avenue is 883.12 feet above set level, and at the Country Club Plaza, 845.77 feet. Its average rainfall over a fifty-year period has been 36.17 inches, and the average wind velocity over a twenty-five year period has been eleven miles per hour. The range in temperature and the adequate rainfall provide the area surrounding Kansas City with a long growing season and make the city a satisfactory place for living and working.

Even with its favorable geographical location and its abundant natural resources, the work of a courageous people was needed to build the city that stands here today. Its workers in production fields, comprising a little over one-fourth of its population, produce the wealth to support the remainder. Through the years, the citizens of Kansas City have had a willingness to work to better both their own living standards and those of their community. They have shown a desire to make their homes in Kansas City.



Boxing at Lincoln Community Center

They have been interested in their jobs. And above all, they have had a vision of the future of their city. The citizens themselves are Kansas City's richest resource.

The citizens who built Kansas City had backgrounds and origins that were as widely different as their races and creeds. There were New England pioneers and Southern planters who brought with them political ideals of Jackson and Lincoln, northern customs and southern cooking, industrial progress and slavery. There were those, too, who fled Europe and came to the City of Kansas, seeking better living. There were those who came here as slaves or freedmen coming north after the Civil War. Today the Negro group makes up about one-tenth of our population.

Negroes in Kansas City form a community within a community. While there were few here in the early days of the city's history, the Negro group now numbers about 50,000, most of them living in one central section between Tenth and Twenty-fifth Streets and between Charlotte Street and Prospect Avenue. There are in addition six other communities, each with its own elementary schools for Negroes, a combined Junior and Vocational High

An Italian
religious
festival



and import macaroni, and buy and sell produce at the city market. There are also Italian professional men, including musicians. Civic leagues and welfare associations, as well as churches, care for the needs of the Italian people.

As early as 1858, a few Jewish people came to Kansas City (see Chapter 3), and by 1940, their number had reached 25,000. Russian, Polish, and German Jews settled here and became a part of the life of the city. Many of them were merchants and engaged in trade and business. Some have held political offices and many are in professions. The Jewish Center provides lectures and plays for the enjoyment of Kansas Citizens, contributing to the culture of the city. The Alfred Benjamin Dispensary provides clinical services for those who need them, and the Menorah Hospital opens its doors to all. Welfare groups, lodges, and synagogues all serve the Jewish group of our population.

Smaller groups of foreign-born are also found in Kansas City—Poles, Czechs, Greeks, and Syrians. While in 1870 most



A citizenship class being naturalized

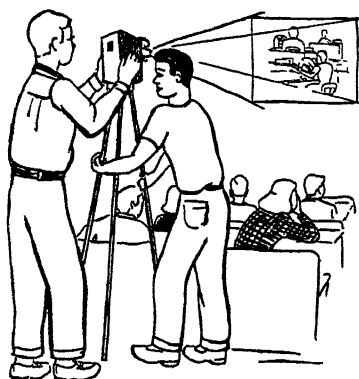
of the immigrant population here were Irish, German, or British, by 1900 more Southern Europeans were settling here. The Polish group came in 1910 as iron molders, and today live in Sheffield and Centropolis, where many of them still engage in that trade. Czechs, Greeks, and Syrians observe some of the customs of their people in church and holiday festivals, and through working in industry, contribute to the city's growth.

Not only have various groups of people given their work and their culture as resources shaping the progress of Kansas City, but also many of them have belonged to different organized labor groups which have had a wide membership here. As early as 1870, a branch of the Knights of Labor was organized in Kansas City. By 1900, following a national trend, most of the unions here had joined with the American Federation of Labor, and by 1936, the Congress of Industrial Organizations also had many members in Kansas City. During the war years, the number belonging to labor unions grew to about 50,000, though 30,000 is considered a more average figure for peace time. Labor leaders have worked for child labor laws, the eight-hour law, workmen's compensation, and fair practice between employers and

employees in all trade and industries. Labor organizations, too, have been a valuable resource of Kansas City.

Every day you contact the people of Kansas City and use the products of their hands and minds. You use, too, some of the resources of your community and its surrounding area. You walk on a cement sidewalk, on cement which is made from the limestone of this region. You cross a street paved with asphalt, which is a combination of evaporated petroleum and crushed rock. You may burn coal for heating or use electricity generated through its use. Perhaps your clothing or hose are made from nylon, a by-product of coal. The roof of your home may be made of zinc composition, and your house itself may be of stucco, containing cement. If your house is of wood, the paint with which it is covered probably contains white lead. The glass in its windows includes zinc, also. Your dinner table is laden with meat that is processed here, and with fruit and vegetables grown nearby. The bread itself is made from the wheat of western fields. The milk you drink is given by dairy herds pastured close to Kansas City.

If you are alive to your surroundings, you feel an appreciation for every natural resource, every stroke of labor, every plan, and every vision which has contributed to your life today. The rocks, the rivers, and the people have given you the riches of your environment, and have made your life more pleasant and more interesting. They have entrusted their wealth to you to enjoy and to conserve.



15. Previewing Your Job

emphor
have

REEL 1 - CAREER AHEAD

When you were very young, you may have amazed your parents by announcing calmly what you wanted to be after you grew up. It may have been a fireman, an airplane pilot, a carpenter, nurse, farmer, teacher, bus driver, or doctor. Whatever it was, your mother and father probably smiled knowingly at each other when you told your decision, realizing that you might change your mind many times before you were old enough to take special training for any job.

As a small child, you always imagined yourself in the role of your chosen work, and in your play you acted the part of the character you wanted to become. If your hero of the moment was the neighborhood policeman, then you, too, were a policeman. If you thought the man who sold cakes and pies in the bakery led an ideal life, you would pretend that you, also, were a clerk at a pastry counter, having the fun of sampling your wares.

At a very early age, you were conscious that grown people spent their days at some kind of work, by which they earned their living. You knew, too, that one day you would "go out into the world" to earn your own living. And the older you grew, the more anxious you were that it should be a good living—one which would give you not only all of the necessities, but also some of the luxuries and pleasures of life.

Now that you are in high school, you are beginning to have a more definite idea of what you want to do when you take your place among the workers of the world. There are probably times when you wish you could look into a crystal ball and catch a glimpse of yourself twenty years in the future. You would like to be able to see if you had chosen work in which you were both successful and happy, which gave you the material things you wanted from life, and which left you enough leisure for outside pleasure and play.

You would scarcely expect to discover by crystal gazing, however, whether or not you could play football. Instead, you would try out for the team. No fortune teller can predict your success in the school play. You guarantee that by doing your best in rehearsals. And surely gazing into a crystal would hardly be a practical way of choosing a vocation. You can be sure of a wise choice only if you have a broad knowledge of many vocations, a keen understanding of your own abilities and skills, and the wisdom to match the two.

When you face the choice of a career ahead, it is best to know where you are going and why. And you will want to get all the help that you can before you make one of the most important decisions of your life.

REEL 2 - SIGNPOSTS ALONG THE WAY

You would never start on a trip by motor car without choosing a destination and consulting the signs along the way. You watch for highway markers and follow their directions. "Detour," "Curve Ahead," "Resume Speed"—these signs and many others guide you on the way to your destination.

Choosing the road in life which you want to travel requires even more careful planning than any trip you might take. And if you plan wisely, you will make use of every opportunity for guidance. While there is no single answer for any of you as to the jobs for which you are best suited, still there are many ways of telling whether or not you seem to be taking the right steps in the proper directions.

During your freshman year, when you review the plan for the subjects you will take in the next three years, you first face the necessity of knowing where you are going and what courses to take to get there. You will want to know how much mathematics or science you need, whether to enroll in business or trades courses, and what part of your time you can give to homemaking or the arts. And if you want to go to college, you must plan to meet entrance requirements there.

Learning
photography
in high school



Your teachers and high school counselor are eager to help you in every way possible, and will talk with you about your own particular problems. They can help you best if you know what you wish to be, but in case you haven't been able to decide, they may refer you to library books written about the careers in which you are interested. You may be amazed to know of the hundreds of attractive and interesting volumes, as well as the timely magazine articles, about careers and vocations which might help to guide you in your choice. See the youth librarian in your school library, or visit the Youth Corner in your Public Library. Such series of books on vocations as the *Picture Fact Books* of Harper and Brothers, the *Career Series* of the E. P. Dutton publishing house, the vocational guidance books of Harry D. Kitson published by Harper and Brothers, and the Dodd-Mead *Career Series* may all prove helpful to you.

There are many interesting books of fiction, too, which may aid you in making up your mind what you want to become. Pamphlets published by the federal government and various



Pouring molten
metal in a
school shop

scientific research institutes are also readable. By going to the public library and consulting the librarians, you can find many other materials which will be fascinating as well as helpful reading. And if you are beginning to feel that the choice of a vocation is more serious business than you care to face, ask for Martin Panzer's *It's Your Future—Make the Most of It*, and chuckle often at his wise humor.

Guidance charts prepared by the counseling department are another help for you. They tell the topics studied in a given course, besides showing the business and professional fields in which you could use it. They also show the cultural and vocational values of each course. For example, if you enroll in home-making, you are receiving preparation not only to manage your own home, but also to become a dietitian, a designer, an interior decorator, a teacher, a tea room manager, or a fashion expert. If you take biology, you are receiving training to become a research scientist, a horticulturist, an animal breeder, a doctor, a nurse, or health director, a pharmacist, technician, museum cura-

tor, or pathologist. Each chart will help you to see the value and practical application of the courses you take.

At various times your high school holds a vocational conference in order to give you a preview of the many jobs in which you as students might be interested. To this conference are invited many speakers in particular fields, men and women who are outstanding in their businesses or professions. They give you a picture of their chosen careers, including the range of salary you might expect to receive, the hours and conditions under which you would work, the preliminary training you must have, your chances for advancement, and provisions for your possible illness and future retirement. After listening to these speakers, you can begin to weigh both the advantages and the drawbacks of the field which you may think you want to enter. You begin, also, to appreciate the endless number of workers which our present society requires to provide you with what you need and want. Through this conference, you begin to realize that many more vocations are open to you and your abilities than you had ever dreamed.

Besides having classroom periods for evaluating what the

Pottery-making in a ceramics class



speakers in the conferences said, you are given the opportunity to have personal interviews with them. Later, you may find it profitable to go through a factory, to visit a newspaper plant, a radio station, or a technician's laboratory. Watch the man on the job to see if you would like to be standing in his shoes. You may even try a part-time job or work during a summer vacation. Actual experience will do more towards helping you make up your mind than all the people or books in the world.

After you have carefully weighed the evidence collected from the signposts along the choice-of-career way, and after you have chosen what you believe will be your particular career ahead, then test your choice. Ask yourself these questions.

1. What qualities do I need to succeed in this vocation?
2. How many jobs are open in this vocation as compared with the number who are preparing to enter it?
3. Are the kind of people engaged in this vocation the kind with whom I will want to work?
4. Will my job make me into the kind of person I want to become?
5. Is my goal the one I want above all others?

A high school newspaper goes to press



6. Am I mentally and physically able to follow my choice through?
7. Am I financially able, or can I become so, to manage to live a balanced life while preparing for my vocation?
8. Have I considered how my choice may affect the lives of my family?
9. Have I thought of the possibility of change in world affairs which might affect the wisdom of my choice?
10. Could the vocation I choose lead to even broader fields of work?
11. Can I reach my goal without bringing harm to others in any way?
12. What type of activity will I enter? Will it be outdoor or inside work? Is it a standing or a sitting job? Will I work at my job alone or with others? Will I work under someone or will I be my own boss? Will I mind whether the work is dirty or clean? Will I be doing the same thing over and over again, or will I have a variety of tasks? Will I work on a commission or a salary basis?

Even if your answers to these questions leave you with the feeling that you want to stand by your choice, there are still other signposts to read before you make your final decision. Although you may have made a thorough study of the vocation you prefer, stop again to see if you can answer the questions on this next signpost: "How well do you know yourself?" For within yourself lies the most important key to your vocational choice, as well as to the high school courses you select.

REEL 3 - PERSONALITY PLUS

Everyone wants either to have or to be a pleasing personality. Personality may be defined as the sum of those qualities which makes each of us different from the other. It also includes the way others react to us. We say, "Tom has a pleasant personality"—"Sue's personality is not pleasing"—when we mean that



A shoe repair class in a vocational school

we like Tom and do not like Sue. What you think of yourself and what others think of you influence greatly the measure of happiness that you get out of your job and your well-earned achievements.

But to succeed in a job takes more than just being likeable, or having winning ways, or making friends easily. It takes more, too, than a fashionable appearance or expensive clothes. It takes personality plus the ability to be yourself in a group without harming others within it. Being yourself is undoubtedly the habit you find most enjoyable. But if you stop to think about it, you realize that you have two selves—your best and your worst. Being your worst self at the expense of your friends or your business associates makes you unwelcome to those around you. A nagging mother is being her worst self, and is annoying to her family. A driving boss is being his worst self, and is despised by his associates. A boastful student is being his worst self, too, and is shunned by his classmates. To be liked by those around you, try to follow the pattern of your best self.

It is a wise person who knows how to maintain a well-balanced personality—to express his own desires and yet fit into a group successfully. One must have personality plus—and “plus” means the added determination to fit one’s personality into the lives of those with whom he is associated. Knowing how to live with others is just as much a key to success as knowing how to do a job.

You may feel you need help in analyzing your own personality. Confidential talks with your parents, teachers, friends, and high school counselor can give it to you. “Personality inventories” in which you take stock of yourself are completed under the direction of your counselor and interpreted by her for you. She will also show you this *Personal Growth Card*.

PERSONAL GROWTH CARD

Name..... **Date**..

Work Habits	Exercises initiative in doing additional work	Completes assigned work satisfactorily on time	Makes fairly acceptable preparation	Works below ability	Seldom works even under pressure
Dependability	Inspires confidence	Carries responsibilities	Usually dependable	Sometimes shirks responsibilities	Frequently fails to meet obligations
Self-Control	Is reasonable and poised in difficult situations	Accepts criticism and works for improvement	Occasionally, but not easily, upset	Easily upset	Loses temper frequently
Social Adaptability	Exerts a wholesome influence	Practices fair play	Usually cooperates	Sometimes disregards the rights of others	Frequently acts in selfish interest

Remarks:

H. R. Teacher..... **Teacher**..

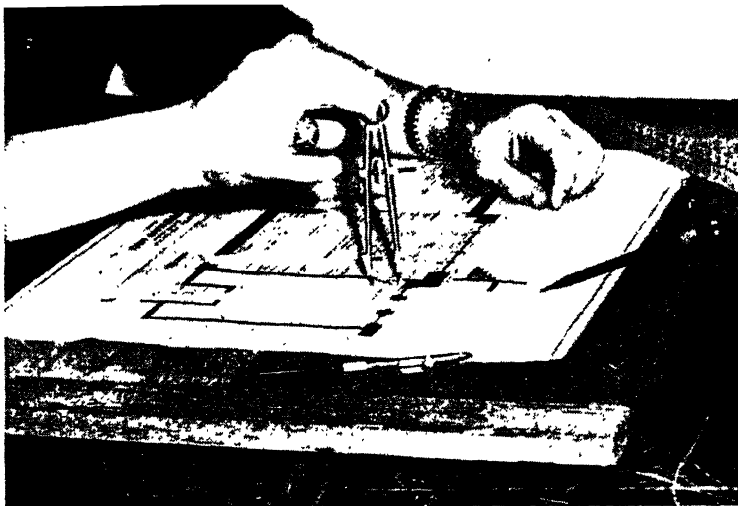


Sewing with power machines

By studying your inventory and your card, you can learn in greater detail both the strengths and the weaknesses of your personality. When you have become aware of your character traits through a friendly talk with your counselor, your battle is half-won. By substituting desirable for disagreeable traits, you can improve your personality.

You are happiest and most successful on a job when you are using your special talents and interests. These can be discovered in part by taking an "aptitude test" in order to find out what your aptitudes are, how to know when you have them, and how to make the most of them. For example, if your test shows that you have mechanical and scientific skills as well as mathematical ability, you will be getting a green light to go ahead with your plans to become an engineer. If your test reveals that you are more interested in the problems of people than anything else, you might want to consider a career as a social service worker.

An aptitude test is merely a measuring stick for your interests and skills,—then it is up to you to make the most of them. There is more than one job in which you can succeed—your talents, personality, or mechanical skills fit you for several. Match them to the jobs where they can serve you best, then train your-



Sketching plans at the drafting board

self to fill these jobs. Your "personality plus," combined with the intelligent use of your aptitudes, should see you well along on your career way.

No matter how well-laid your plans, however, success on your job depends fundamentally upon your character traits. Paul was a boy of outstanding musical talent, yet he lacked the drive to become a noted musician. Lucille had a flair for design and artistic ability, yet she needed greater patience and perseverance to become a costume designer. Sam could make anything with his hands, yet he never finished anything he undertook. What happened to their dreamed-of careers? If you were to talk with them, they might say, "I could have gotten farther, if only——." That "if" contains the secret of their failure. It may have meant that they met with small failures or discouragements and could not rise above them. It may have meant that they magnified small successes and became content with what they were, rather than realizing their highest ambitions. Each of these individuals might have had a successful career if he had had more of the character traits that we call perseverance, patience, endurance, and a keen sense of responsibility. Without these traits, training and talent are of small use.

REEL 4 - YOUR STAKE IN THE FUTURE

As a freshman, you may be worried because you have not yet made up your mind which vocation you want to follow. This need not alarm you, for you have several years ahead of you in which to narrow your choice. Your first year in high school is only the previewing year, when you can get a general idea of many vocational fields. If you feel you have a special interest in one particular field, however, study all the possible jobs within it. There is time enough to narrow your choice to one job when you reach your senior year. Make your narrowed selection rest upon a broad base of understanding.

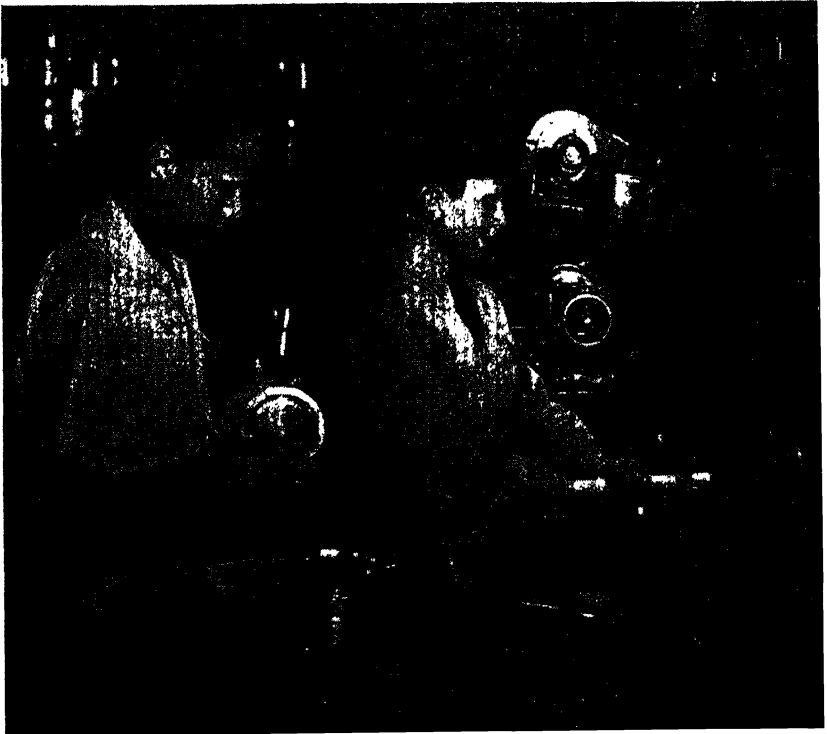
Your plans for the future may include college. This will surely be true if you have decided to follow a profession or to specialize in some field which requires more training before you are ready to take a job in it. Be very sure that in choosing your four-year high school course you enroll in the subjects which in general meet college entrance requirements. By checking on your counseling card your intention to go to college, you give your counselor and home room teacher the opportunity to help you plan for the future. If you plan to attend college in Kansas City or elsewhere, make sure that your course will meet the requirements of the school of your choice.

Since you will have a stake in the future, you will be interested in new jobs in various fields. The work of the world has undergone great changes in the last few decades. Jobs that were open to your father may not be open to you. On the other hand, many jobs will be waiting for you which were unheard of in his time. The scientific age in which you live is responsible for many of these. Seventy-five years ago, three-fourths of all the workers in the nation produced all of the goods needed for home use and export. The other fourth were engaged in some kind of services to others. By 1930, only one-half of our population was needed for production. Some people say that in the future only one-

fourth will be producing our necessities and luxuries. What does this mean to you in your choice of a job? It tells you that the field of production may be both limited and overcrowded, but that there will be many jobs of service which you may fill.

You will want to check the trends in the occupational fields in which you are interested. To do this, you may interview those working in them and ask them about their plans for the future, the salaries they pay, and the conditions under which you would work. You may read current newspapers and magazines, as well as trade journals and civil service pamphlets. You may want to consult the United States Employment Service. For a view of the local picture, check with the United States Census of 1940 for occupations listed in Kansas City and the number of workers employed. While in the nation there are hundreds of different

Finishing ash trays for the Junior Red Cross



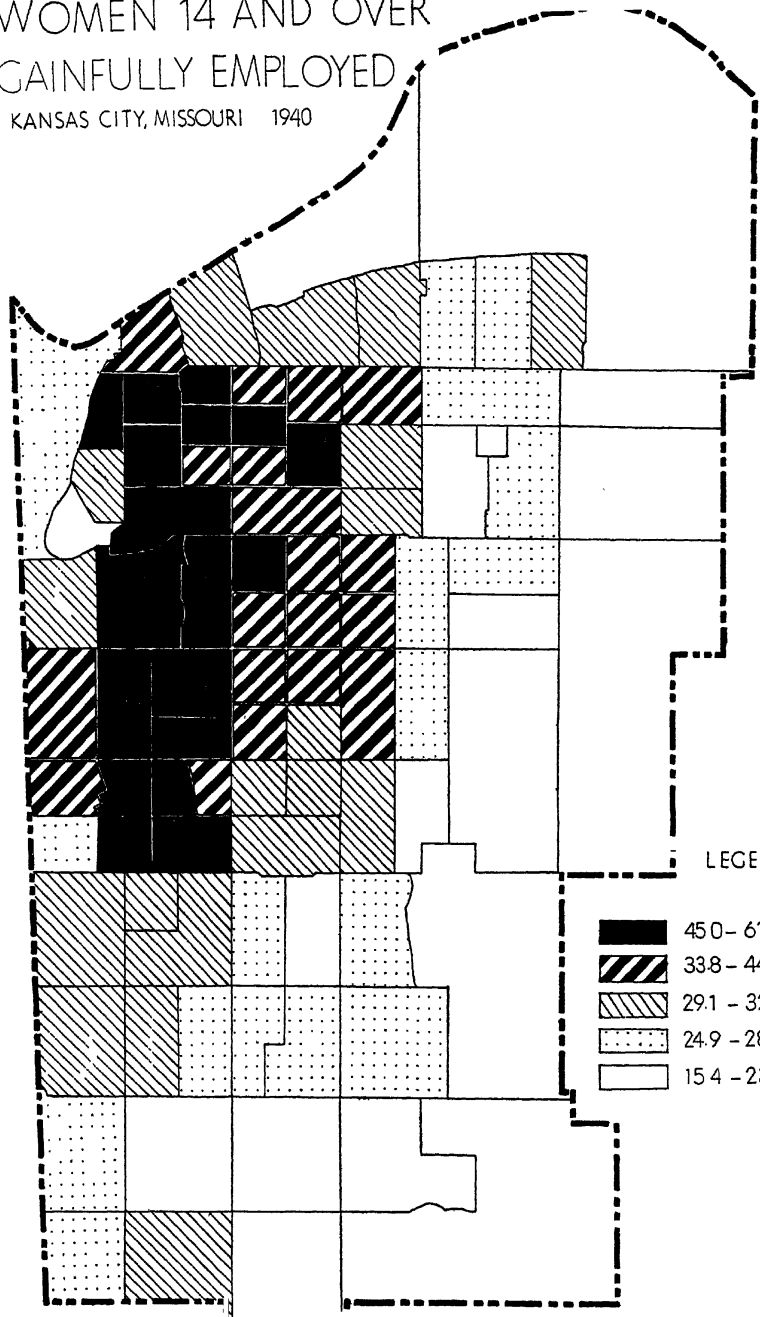
kinds of jobs listed in the census, they are all grouped under ten general headings. These same headings are used in the Kansas city classification. After you have made your occupational choice, check it carefully to see if it is a field where you can advance.

By the time you have been graduated from high school, you represent a major investment made by Kansas City. For your education Kansas Citians have spent over a hundred dollars a year since the day you entered school. This means that well over a thousand dollars have been invested in you. Any person making an investment expects a reasonable return. Your city expects one from you. By taking your place as a worker, able to support yourself and those dependent upon you, you will be fulfilling this obligation to your community.

Your stake in the future depends largely on the vocational choice you make.

WOMEN 14 AND OVER GAINFULLY EMPLOYED

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 1940



LEGEND

- 45.0 - 61.1 PERCENT
- 33.8 - 44.3
- 29.1 - 32.5
- 24.9 - 28.6
- 15.4 - 23.6

16th Census of U. S.—Volume II
Characteristics of the Population

Table A-42 (p. 453)—Employed Workers 14 years Old and Over,
 by *Major Occupation Group*, and Sex for Kansas City: 1940.

Major Occupation Group and Industry	Total	Male	Female
Total population (all ages)	399,178	190,117	209,061
Total 14 yrs. and over	332,828	156,529	176,299
In labor force	191,278	129,678	61,600
Employed workers (Except on public emergency work)	160,944	108,099	52,845
<i>Major Occupation Group</i>			
Professional workers	11,543	6,461	5,082
Semiprofessional workers	2,174	1,451	723
Farmers and Farm Managers	162	151	11
Proprietors, managers & officials	18,600	15,749	2,851
Clerical, sales and kindred workers	49,063	28,336	20,727
Craftsmen, foremen and kindred workers	17,719	17,053	666
Operatives & kindred workers	25,495	18,236	7,259
Service workers (except domestic)	19,325	11,705	7,620
Domestic service workers	7,906	593	7,313
Farm laborers (wage workers and farm foremen)	249	237	12
Farm laborers (unpaid family workers)	15	11	4
Laborers, except farm	7,694	7,497	197
Occupations not reported	999	619	380

KANSAS CITY AT WORK

Workers

SCALE $\frac{1}{4}$ "=2000

44,728

Wholesale and Retail Trade

31,657

Manufacturing

Personal Services

Transportation, Communication, Other Public Utilities

Professional and Related Services

Finance, Insurance, Real Estate

Construction

6,477

Government

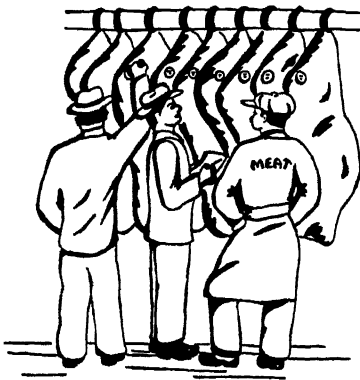
Business and Repair Services

1,768

Amusement, Recreation, etc.

671

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing



16. Your Money's Worth

INCREASING CONSUMER KNOWLEDGE

Do you ever brag about the bargains you get? Do you like to think you are a shrewd trader? Do you always feel you get your money's worth? Or must you admit that occasionally you've been a sucker?

Does any day pass when you don't spend money? When you stop to think of it, the answer is no. For today, if you live in a city, you must buy almost everything you use. You must depend upon the work of others to supply your daily needs, and you must spend money to buy them.

Conditions were far different in frontier days. The earliest pioneers of Kansas City depended upon themselves to satisfy their wants. Little money changed hands. Settlers grew their own food, wove their cloth, made their clothes, and built their cabins. Each pioneer's home was in reality a small factory, for within its walls foods were dried, canned, or cured, household articles were made, and clothing was woven and sewn. The pioneer produced almost everything he consumed. His dollars might be beaver skins, logs of salt, or twists of tobacco, for "hard money" was scarce. Barter was common, and there was little buying or selling.

As self-sustaining prairie cabins gave way to sprawling factories and towering grain elevators, Kansas Citians no longer supplied their needs within their own homes, but began to buy from manufacturers. More and more money was spent, and the well-informed buyer got the most for his money.

You were not very old before you became a consumer and learned that it takes money to buy what you want. You discovered at an early age that storekeepers did not hand you ice cream cones, marbles, tops, and balloons without asking for your pennies and nickels. Before you were much older, you learned to shop around in various neighborhood stores to get the best values. The store selling the "double dip" for five cents got your trade, and

whether you knew it or not, you were learning a lesson in consumer education—one among the many you need to know.

You buy your living today. When few articles were manufactured and trademarks were first established, it was easy to recognize standard labels and brands. There was little difficulty in buying. But in this modern age when there is such a wide selection of goods, when new products are constantly being introduced, when changes in models are frequently made, when there are different qualities and grades of goods and dozens of brands, and when much of our merchandise is sold in sealed packages, expert knowledge of what to buy becomes a "must". You cannot afford to be a babe in the woods of merchandise.

Then too, it is wise to remember that most of us live on small incomes. Even during the years of World War II, when salaries were high, a third of the nation's buyers had a salary of less than \$1500, and well over an eighth had a cash income of less than \$500. This means that careful shopping must go into the spending of every dollar.

No one can tell you what is the best value for you. This is determined not only by the amount you have to spend, but also by your taste and your need. You may prefer to buy a football and wear your old sweater another season, or a pair of party shoes and do without ice skates this winter. Your choice may depend upon what seems most important to you at the time of your purchase. However, you do have to decide what you value most, and begin to plan accordingly.

As a consumer, it is best to set up your own standards of buying. Before you can do this, you will want to gather facts about what you are buying, and then check to see if they are reliable. Planning for the use of your time and your money will help you to get the best out of life, and to raise your standard of living. You will want to master the points of "buymanship," or the art of buying exactly what satisfies your wants with the least drain on your pocketbook, your time, and your energy. You

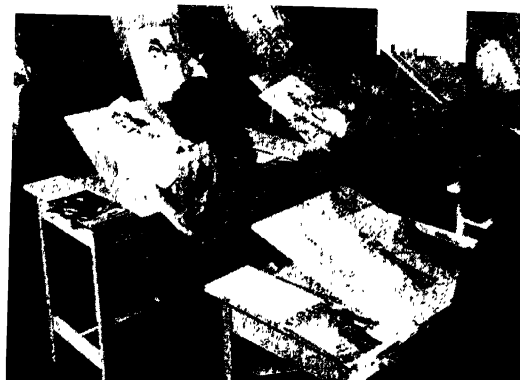
will learn from experience not to make the same mistake twice, and to become more alert as a buyer. You will learn to deal with businessmen, showing them that you are a well-informed consumer without being objectionable in your manner.

As an intelligent consumer, it is important that you learn to use what you have and get the full value out of it. Do not discard any article until it is too thoroughly worn for future use. Try to avoid needless service charges in new merchandise, too, such as buying clothing that will be constantly at the cleaners, machines and gadgets that require expert attention to keep them in repair, or luxuries that are fads of the moment. A long-range financial plan is an important part of buying wisely. This may include a systematic savings plan, an insurance program, keeping a careful record of all business dealings, and making wise investments.

Before making any plans for spending, it is well to realize that over twenty cents of every consumer dollar goes for taxes. While this leaves you a buying power of only eighty cents, yet you must remember that taxes are really your way of buying as a group those things which you could not buy as an individual. As a person, you could not buy a school, a highway, a police force, a fire department, or a hospital, yet as a member of a group paying taxes you are buying all of these. Knowing the amount you spend for taxes, as well as understanding what they buy, is a vital part of your consumer education.

ANALYZING ADVERTISEMENTS

Competition is keen in the world of business. Therefore it is only natural that manufacturers should make every effort to advertise their products in order to increase their sales. Advertising has become big business. An estimate was made in 1942 that over a billion dollars were spent just to put the products of various companies before the American public. Colorful eye-catching advertisements in widely circulated magazines, expen-



A fashion
class at the
Art Institute

sive “spreads” in city newspapers and farm journals, highly paid screen stars on national radio hook-ups, and thousands of billboards and posters—all have been used to catch the attention of the prospective buyer. In fact, you may feel at times that you are caught in a maze of advertising and lost in a jungle of words. If you ate every food, took every medicine, or bought every article which is glowingly pictured to you, you would either be bankrupt or die young of an acute case of over-advertising.

It is a smart buyer who learns how to analyze advertising. While alert shoppers always look for advertisements, yet they learn early to analyze them and to weigh carefully their merits or their claims. You may have an opportunity to study advertising in your high school life. In your civics class you can cover the advertising field rather thoroughly by dividing yourselves into groups and sampling a cross section of national and local advertising. Put these different kinds of advertisements under your critical microscope, and see how they measure up under careful examination:

foods

clothing

medicine, health foods and vitamins, and health appliances
household furnishings and appliances

toilet goods and cosmetics

leisure-time goods—sports equipment, books and magazines,
musical equipment

industries and utilities
agricultural products

Add to this list anything which interests you particularly, or what is widely advertised.

Select the class group that is studying the kinds of advertisements which interest you most, and then within that group, choose one article, line of goods, or service to study for yourself. For example, if you are interested in foods, select one food such as soup, and follow through all the advertisements describing this product in magazines, newspapers, or on the radio. Underline in different colored pencils the specific facts, the attention-getting devices, and the useless "puff" or padding in claims you find in each advertisement. Or choose one brand of canned goods, and find out if the types of advertisements for it differ in the various magazines and journals in which it is advertised. If you are interested in transportation, study railroad and airplane advertisements and see if they have the appeal which makes you want to travel by their lines. Summarize your findings by deciding what proportion of each advertisement gave you information, caught your attention, or "glamourized" the product it was trying

Workers in the garment industry



to sell. Then you will know better how much faith to place in the advertising of different firms and which products or services to buy.

Both producers and sellers have studied human nature well enough to know that there are certain appeals which persuade the consumer. They have discovered that when an advertisement is startling enough to capture your immediate attention, when it produces pleasant associations, emphasizes quality, or shows where economy is possible, it interests the public. Writers of advertising copy also know that people have fears and will try products that promise to relieve them. People also want to be popular, and will buy the goods they feel will make them so. They often need a final push into action which a clever advertisement can give them. Through the appeals of advertising, the buying public is influenced more than it realizes.

While producers and sellers are interested in making every possible appeal to you and your pocketbook, you as a consumer cannot do without their advertising. In your life as it is today, you would not only be unaware of what products are being manufactured or what services offered, but you would not know the merits of each. Thus it is to your advantage to analyze advertisements and to use them wisely.

The Advertising and Sales Executives Club of Kansas City acknowledged the value of centralized advertising and showed faith in its future by sponsoring the opening in 1946 of the Merchandise Mart at Twenty-second Street and Grand Avenue. Here, in one building, are located displays and sales rooms of over three hundred national and local firms. Buyers may inspect goods and place orders at the mart without the inconvenience of visiting warehouses and wholesale firms. Attractive displays acquaint these buyers with the merchandise values produced by factories all over the United States. The Merchandise Mart is itself a good example of modern advertising.

Since the buying public is besieged with advertising cam-

paigns and powerful sales pressure, it must have some protection. Too often there are people who are easily deceived or cheated, and these must be warned against those who would take advantage of their weakness. In over eighty cities in the nation, including Kansas City, such protection is today given by the Better Business Bureau. This non-profit organization was begun in 1911 under the sponsorship of the Advertising Club with the purpose of discovering frauds in advertising and selling, and business "rackets" to which the public is exposed, and then of prosecuting those who engage in dishonest practices. The slogan of the Better Business Bureau is, "Before You Invest—Investigate! Read Before You Sign! Keep a Copy!" The bureau also publishes for your protection a list of almost 200 schemes by which you can be swindled, and warns you against them. Through the systematic checking service of this bureau, the consumer is protected from those who might otherwise cheat him. Better business relations are established between business firms and the consumer through the work of the bureau. The Better Business Bureau also tries to educate the public to fair business practices, and acts upon complaints of misleading advertising. At any time you wish information about any doubtful financial or commodity offer, or feel you have been misled by advertising, or have been the victim of fraud, you may call this bureau and let it investigate for you.

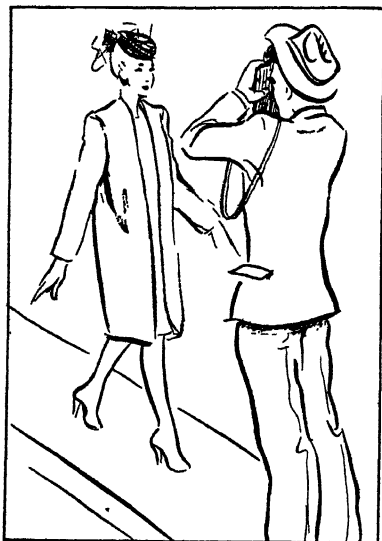
While you may feel at times that you are at the mercy of the advertiser, you can, by analyzing his advertisements, become critical enough to see that he improves them in the future. By refusing to be too easily influenced by exaggerated claims, and by demanding informative advertising copy which gives only factual information about the products it seeks to sell, you can help to determine the advertising policy of the future. Even though there are laws governing advertising, no written statutes can be as effective as your own actions. You will get what you demand in advertising, for the products you buy and the firms from which



Magazine Solicitors—Many complaints were received against agents, stopping pedestrians on the sidewalks, to sell magazine subscriptions. These magazines would never be delivered to an unsuspecting public.



Puff Sheets—The pleased business man above has purchased a large number of copies of a magazine containing an article praising him. He does not realize that only a few editions of the magazine were printed and that he himself paid for their cost.



Sidewalk Photographers—A typical complaint is from those who send in coupons with money for their photographs, yet never receive them. This playing on the vanity of the public has paid dividends to scheming photographers.



Song Sharks—This happy young man is going to mail his song poem and advanced fee to a "publisher" who has promised to print his song. The song will never be sold to the public and the boy has wasted his money.

you buy them speak plainer than the advertisements whose purpose it is merely to "sell" you.

LOOKING AT LABELS AND COSTS

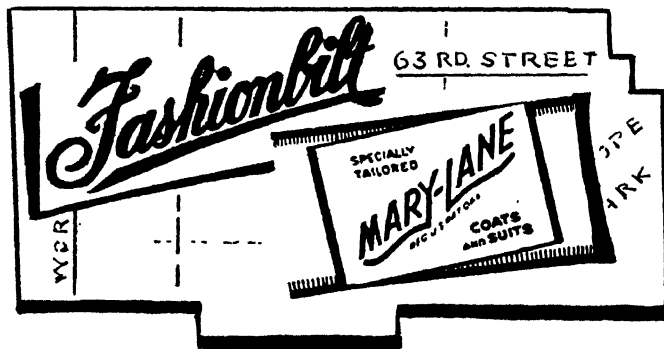
In the days when covered wagons and horse-drawn carriages lined the market square of the City of Kansas, and every housewife bargained direct with the farmer, each shopper was concerned not to buy "a pig in a poke," as the saying was. This meant that she wanted to be sure of what she was buying, and not discover a pig in her basket when she wanted to bring home a chicken. It was the common practice of each housewife to taste the apples, feel the peaches, thump the melons, and pour berries from their boxes to see that she got full measure and good value. She sniffed the coffee beans, tested the firmness of the cabbage, and checked the size of the eggs. She depended upon her own judgment to test each purchase she made and generally blamed herself when she felt she was cheated. All her purchases were direct from the producer. Her own skill in selection determined the value and satisfaction she got from them.

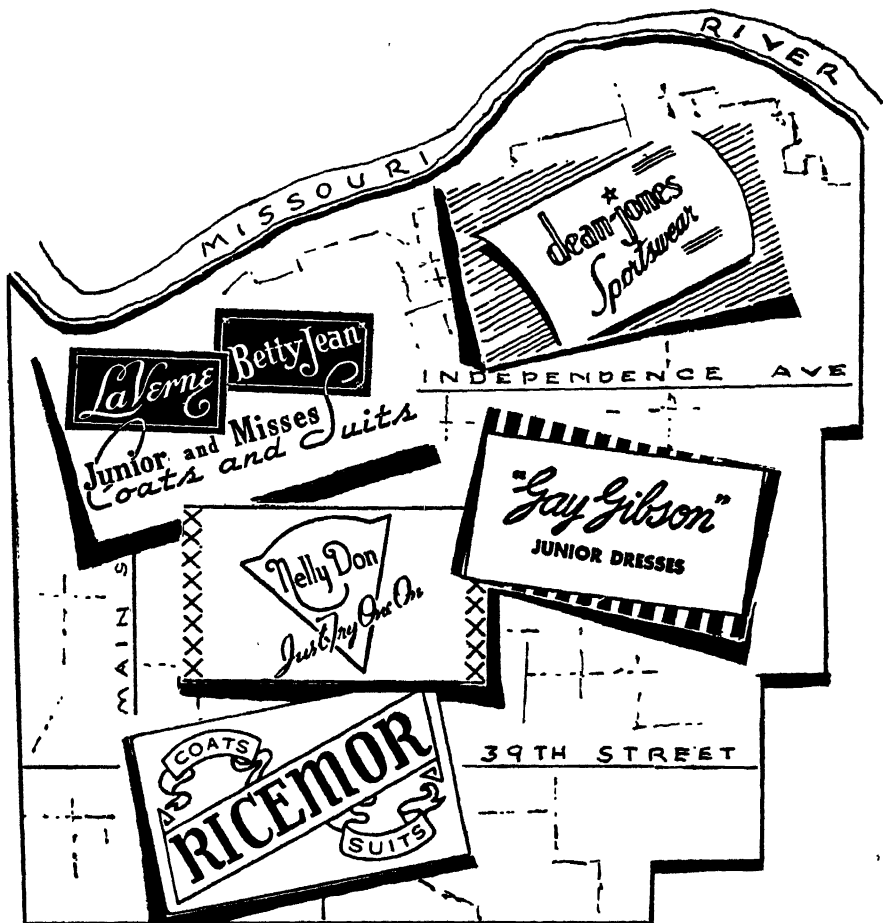
Much of your life today is in direct contrast to this picture of your great-grandmother's time. You are seldom in contact with the producer of any of the goods you use. Most of the articles you buy are packaged or bottled, and you have to depend largely on their labels to know if they fit your needs. Your clothing is made from materials woven perhaps hundreds of miles from your home, and made into garments at far-distant factories. Only their labels guarantee their quality. The refrigerator unit in your kitchen may have been sealed when it was made, and you have only the manufacturer's word that it will prove satisfactory. Labels are your guides to buying.

Since manufacturers and processors know that you are dependent upon labels, it is essential that they use a standard language in describing their products to you. Manufacturing centers are located all over the United States and their owners

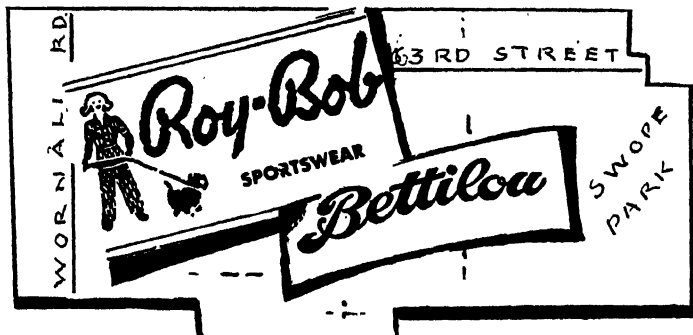


KANSAS CITY





ORIGINALS



sell to every part of the country, so it is very necessary that they use the same descriptive terms. Cans of "Grade A" tomatoes must be the same in New York or in San Francisco, whether they have been packed in Missouri or Washington. A "pre-shrunk" shirt must give satisfaction to its wearers in Keokuk or Kalamazoo, whether it was made in Massachusetts or Illinois. It is up to manufacturers and producers to use standardized information in presenting their goods to the public, and then to stand behind the claims that they make.

It is equally important that you, on your part, understand the meaning of terms used on labels. Not only must the manufacturer give you the facts you need, but you must be able to interpret these facts. A household article bearing a label that shows it has been approved by a research institute should mean more to you than one with only its trade name. A patent medicine should state its contents on the label, but you in turn will have to decide whether it is the proper one for you to take. If you are a wise shopper, you will learn from labels. They protect your health and your safety. They offer you greater convenience and assurance in buying. When you have read the information they give, you are better able to make your wants understood and less apt to return the goods you have purchased.

Labels may be informative, descriptive, or state a grade or classification. A label telling the ingredients of a candy bar is informative. A "100% wool" label describes a product. A "Grade C" can of pears places it in a class of less than perfect but still usable fruit, and a "number 2" pencil gives its degree of hardness. In cooperating with the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, passed in 1938, the following information must appear on labels of marketed products.

1. The name and address of the manufacturer, packer, or shipper.
2. An accurate statement of quantity.
3. If the product is of two or more ingredients and is not a

standardized food, the common or usual name of each ingredient must be listed.

4. Food for special dietary uses must bear information considered necessary to fully inform purchasers.
5. Artificial flavoring, artificial coloring, or chemical preservatives in foods must be listed in the labeling.
6. All the information required by the act must be given in a form easily noticed and readily understood.

Certain rules of health and sanitation must be observed also.

1. Food must be prepared, packed, and held under sanitary conditions.
2. A food must not be filthy, spoiled, or otherwise unfit.
3. A food must not be the product of a diseased animal.

There are certain restrictions against fraud, too, which apply to labeling food and drugs.

1. Food labels must not be false or misleading in any particular.
2. Damage or inferiority in a food must not be concealed in any manner.
3. No substance may be added to a food to increase its bulk or weight or to make it appear of greater value than it is.
4. A food must not be sold under the name of another food.
5. Imitations and food substandard in quality must be so labeled.
6. A substance which is recognized as being a valuable part of a food must not be omitted.
7. Food containers must not be so made, formed, or filled as to be deceiving.

These are only a few of the many regulations for your protection which the government has passed.

Startling as it may seem, it costs more to distribute goods than to produce them. Experts have figured that out of every consumer dollar, 41 cents go for production, while 59 cents are spent for distribution. For example, if a dress made in a Kansas

City factory is to be sold later to a New Orleans buyer, it must first be shown by a salesman to a wholesale firm, shipped to it and sold to a retail firm in that southern city, where it must be advertised and displayed in a store before it is finally purchased by a customer. The cost of sending the dress from the factory here to its final sale is more than the cost of designing, cutting, and sewing it. Foodstuffs shipped from Kansas City which must be stored in a warehouse before they are sold have an even higher distribution cost, due to this storage. What is true of the dress or the food is true of every manufactured or processed article.

Looking at labels and studying costs—both are important steps towards getting your money's worth.

WHEN IT'S GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

You have probably always heard that it is a wise person who knows when to mind his own business. While this is generally desirable, there are circumstances which make it necessary for your government to mind your business, too. There are even occasions when you would willingly ask the government to tend to your business, especially when you need its protection.

In a democracy, the laws and regulations governing our lives grow out of the experiences and the problems of the people living within it. In the history of our American democracy, our problems have changed with our growth. New problems need new answers, and these have been worked out from time to time according to public demand. Since the game of living is continually changing, new rules must be created by which to play it. Whenever unfair practices of business have threatened your welfare, the government has stepped in to protect you. Whenever you were exposed to business tricks beyond the limit of fairness, the government has stopped the activities of those persons who would practice them.

In order to be able to protect consumer interests and control unfair trade practices, a Federal Trade Commission was set up in

1914. It is the duty of this commission to investigate all cases where methods of business are destroying competition by any means other than efficiency. Cases of false and misleading advertising, the imitation of trade-marks or trade names, quoting different prices to different individuals or firms, marking up prices, conducting lotteries, misbranding and mislabeling goods, and selling used or rebuilt articles as if they were new—all these unfair business methods are investigated by the Federal Trade Commission and subject to its judgment.

Many federal laws have been passed setting up standard requirements for such articles as foods, drugs, cosmetics, insecticides, butter content, wool products labeling, net weight, and sizes for barrels, crates, and baskets. Many states, too, have laws controlling advertising, labeling, and fair trade. Missouri has adopted such an advertising control, but as yet has no fair trade law.

During World War II, government control had to be extended farther than it had ever gone before to include price regulation. Prices always skyrocket when clothing, food, and housing are scarce. Factory workers, busy at war tasks, were not producing refrigerators, motor cars, radios, ready-to-wear garments, or electrical appliances. To prevent the price of rents, foods, and clothing from rising beyond all reason and bringing about inflation, ceilings were placed on these by the Office of Price Administration. Commodities that were alarmingly scarce, such as sugar, canned goods, meat, shoes, and gasoline were rationed so that all might have their fair share. All through the war years, the people profited by government control, for it reduced suffering and want.

The United States Constitution gave Congress the power to fix standards of weights and measures. Pounds, yards, and tons have values fixed by state governments. All other units of measurements, such as those of electricity, are fixed by Congress. Standards of quality for apples, cotton, butter, eggs, and most

grains, besides standards of weight for carloads of grain, are set by the United States Department of Agriculture. Even though there is definite regulation of weights and measures, it is surprising to find how much they vary between states. For instance, a bushel of tomatoes sold in Missouri weighs 45 pounds, while in Kansas it must weigh 56 pounds. A bushel of sweet potatoes weighs 56 pounds in Missouri and 50 pounds in Kansas. However, a bushel of wheat, oats, peaches, peas, or Irish potatoes weighs the same amount in both states. There are five different groups of ways of standardizing weights throughout the country, and each state falls into one of these groups. This situation would seem to indicate a need for still more uniformity in standards of weights and measures.

Another most important standard fixed by the government is that of money. We have long since passed the period of barter when furs were traded for salt and sugar, or farm produce for calico and meat. Our modern methods of business demand that we have money which can be recognized at once as having standard value. Since only a government can supply such money, it takes over the job of coining metal and printing paper money. To all currency the government gives a fixed value which is the same throughout the nation. The standardizing of money is decidedly government business.

The federal government regulates banking, too. All national banks are inspected by the Comptroller of Currency. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insures bank deposits up to \$5,000 for each depositor. The Federal Reserve System can determine largely at what rate of interest bank loans shall be made and for what purpose, as well as how much paper money shall be in circulation. Through loans to individuals and business firms, the government is able to control credit.

Scientific research, too, is government business. Throughout the years of the nation's development, the federal government has assisted in research projects which would be of benefit to the

people. The aviation industry, for example, has been aided by improved weather forecasting and aircraft tests. Farmers have been helped not only by better weather predictions but by crop research as well. Oil companies have benefited by using government land maps. People living in river valleys and desert areas have reaped the rewards of government-built power dams.

Transportation and education, too, have been aided by government funds. Many students educated in public schools later may enter the field of private research, and thus use their school training in scientific research. A laboratory in Kansas City called the Midwest Research Institute is carrying on both private and governmental research. Resources and products of the Midwest are studied and tested to discover new uses for them. New inventions made here may change business methods and create new markets.

Under the Constitution of the United States, our government guarantees to individuals or groups of individuals the right to free enterprise and honest competition in business. It is, however, the duty and obligation of government to regulate this competition so that business practices will be fair to producer, seller, and consumer alike. In this way, your government is concerned that you get your money's worth.



17. Charting the City's Needs

GROWING UP TO CITY PLANNING

If the city fathers of the Town of Kansas had been able to see the future Kansas City, they would never have believed what they saw. Tall skyscrapers, pointed spires, a network of streets filled with a steady flow of traffic, a maze of railroad tracks, belching smokestacks, airplanes zooming above the Missouri River—few of the pioneer citizens of Kansas City could ever have dreamed of all these. And few others would have believed that high clay banks, streets that were rivers of mud, and squat frame buildings could be transformed into the city of today in a span of less than a hundred years.

Because it was impossible for them to foretell the startling changes which were to take place here, the pioneer settlers made few plans for its growth. Concerned as they were with securing shelter and finding ways to earn a living, they had little time to think of planning for the city of tomorrow. It has been said that if these same city forefathers had had a pattern for Kansas City, they could never have laid it down because of the hills and hollows on which the city is built. It was once known as a town of four gulleys, stretched between steep clay banks that must either be graded down or tunneled through.

An amusing and true story has been told of such a steep bank on Baltimore Avenue. During the 1870's, a man had a lumber yard just west of the present site of the John Taylor store. Rather than cross the steep muddy street leading up to the lumber yard, his employees built a ladder fifty feet long and made it firm by spiking it to the hillside back of the yard. This came to be known as "Jacob's Ladder," and was used by many citizens on rainy days. People often gathered at the foot of the ladder to watch beaver-hatted, frock-coated business men, both fat and dignified, puffing up its shaky rungs.

The young river town, spreading up to the hills beyond the waterfront, soon needed streets cut through the bluffs. In order

to do this, an ordinance was passed to "contract on the credit of the city for a large plow, two grubbing hoes, three spades, and three shovels" for use in grading the streets. These supplies seem somewhat inadequate for cutting through bluffs that were from 50 to 80 feet high.

For a number of years, it was possible for the Town of Kansas to grade a street without first asking permission of the home owners who lived on it. This fact accounts for an incident that happened in 1871, when a business man, returning to his home after a short trip, walked off a very steep bank and broke his arm. The city had graded the street in front of his house during his absence, and left the bluff unguarded by a railing or a lantern. The man sued the city and received damages.

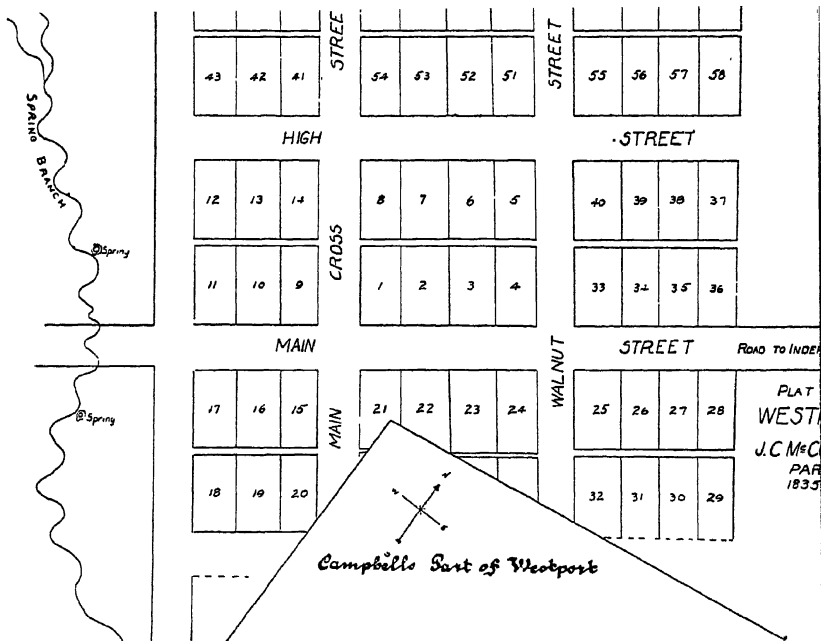
But grading was not enough to make the streets passable. Mud and dust were constant nuisances to the citizens. Often teams bogged down in a sea of mud and pedestrians thought they

THE Town of Kansas

JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI
BY W.S.D.

Scale 100 ft Per Inch





Filed for Record Feb 13, 1835.

copy of the original plat
Civil

were lucky when they could cross the streets without sticking fast. *The Kansas City Times* told of one man who lost his boot in the mud of Main Street. It also told of clouds of dust hanging above the city like smoke over a battle field, and added that the dust was four inches deep on Broadway.

No one was especially concerned with improving the streets in the Town of Kansas, for few pioneers expected to remain here long. They hoped to make their fortunes and then return to their homes in the East. For this reason, it is not strange that Main Street was the only paved street in the town at the beginning of the Civil War. This was true as late as 1880, even though the population had increased to 55,000. By then, people were beginning to see the need for better street planning, so the crosstown streets running east and west which had been given names were now numbered. With a keener interest in macadamizing the streets came the need for a board of public works which would

have authority over all street improvements. This was created by the charter of 1889.

After some of the streets in Kansas City had been paved, they had to be torn up time and time again to make way for public improvements because of the lack of city planning. A verse maker expressed this idea in the following lines:

"Fixing the Streets"

"They took a little gravel,
And took a little tar,
With various ingredients,
Imported from afar.
They hammered it and rolled it,
And when they went away
They said they had a pavement
To last for many a day.

"They came with picks and smote it,
To lay a water main,
And they called the workmen
To put it back again.
To lay a railway track
They took it up once more
And then they put it back
Just where it was before.

"They took it up for conduits,
To run the telephone,
And then they put it back again
As hard as any stone.
They tore it up for wires
To feed the 'lectric light
And then they put it back again
Which was no more than right.

"Oh, the pavement's full of furrows;
There are patches everywhere;
You'd like to ride upon it,
But it's seldom that you dare;
It's a very handsome pavement,
A credit to the town,
But they're always diggin' of it up,
Or puttin' of it down."

—Citizen's League Bulletin, 1922

Preventing such waste and inconvenience is one of the pur-

poses of city planning. But cities have had to reach a certain stage of growth before they felt this need.

With the paving of Kansas City's streets came the problem of keeping them clean. All charters except the city's first one have given it the right to do this. Through the years since then, streets have been kept clean because their condition was vital to the health and comfort of the citizens. It has been the duty of a street commissioner under the Board of Public Works to see that trash is removed, streets are sprinkled, and sewers and catch basins are properly cleaned.

An organization of realtors was started in 1886 which may be considered one of the first planning boards to deal with the city's growth. This was the Kansas City Real Estate and Stock Exchange, whose chief purpose was to control the unlawful speculation in real estate booms. Before this, real estate had been developed in a hit-or-miss fashion according to the wish or pleasure of each individual who represented himself to be a realtor. Results of controlling speculation were that land values became more stable and neighborhoods more permanent. In such a way, the city's growth was planned for and regulated in some measure.

Early in its history, Kansas Citians were interested only in its business life, and had little time to play. They gave no thought to sports or athletics. The first playgrounds for the city's children were the open streets. The charter of 1875 gave to the city the right to "prohibit the rolling of hoops, flying of kites, or any other amusement or practice tending to annoy persons passing on the streets or sidewalks, or to frighten horses or teams—." Children growing up then had no public parks or playgrounds.

By 1895, however, a Board of Park Commissioners was appointed, and given the power to acquire and maintain a system of parks and boulevards. A campaign for these improvements was launched by *The Kansas City Star*, but met with some opposition. Many of the largest property owners at first refused to spend tax money for such purposes, declaring that parks were "places where

scented dudes smoke cigarettes and play croquet with girls as silly as themselves." These same citizens said that boulevards were "streets decorated for the wives and daughters of millionaires to drive on in their rich carriages when they take their darling poodle dogs for an airing."

The enthusiasm of William Rockhill Nelson, owner of *The Kansas City Star*, was responsible for overcoming these objections, and for appointing George Kessler, a landscape architect, to do something about the ugly west bluffs. From this beginning grew Kersey Coates Drive, and the career of Mr. Kessler as one of the nation's outstanding planners for civic beauty. Under the leadership of August R. Meyer, president of the first Park Board, and the help of such men as S. B. Armour, D. J. Haff, Robert Gillham, and Colonel Nelson, constant campaigning went forward. While in 1880 Kansas City had no public park property or boulevards, yet twenty years later, there were nearly 1,700 acres of parks and eleven and a half miles of boulevards. Today the number has grown to 116 miles of boulevards and parkways, and thirty parks.

An interest in city planning of another type was shown in the late 1890's, when plans were started to exhibit the products of Kansas City manufacturers. Business men decided that a permanent building was necessary for this purpose, so Convention Hall was built in 1898 at Twelfth and Central Streets. A year later, it was destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt on the same site by 1900. From that time on, conventions were included in the city's plans, and many hotels were built to accommodate the thousands of delegates coming here. Today there are nearly 200 hotels in Kansas City.

An important phase of city planning concerns zoning. (See Chapter 9). If it were not for the provisions of zoning ordinances, garages and filling stations could be built next to private dwellings anywhere in the city, grocery stores could stand far out in front of houses or apartments, tall hotels could tower above small cottages, and new real estate subdivisions could be opened without

restrictions. The first need for zoning laws was felt in 1905, when billboard nuisances threatened to mar the appearance of the city. In that year, an ordinance was passed permitting the city to determine where signboards could be put up and to take them down if they were placed in undesirable locations. Billboard regulations paved the way for future zoning provisions. Thus zoning became the tool of planning and determined the use to which private property should be put.

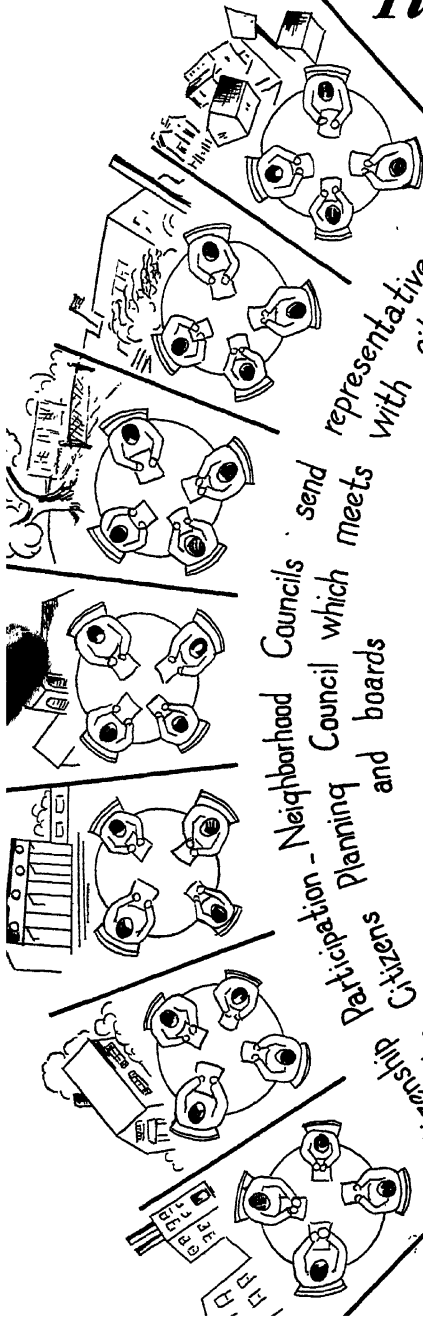
Kansas City, as a city, began to plan consciously for its growth soon after the close of the first World War. In 1919, a City Plan Commission was created by ordinance, providing for the appointment by the mayor of eight members to serve for four years. This was the step which led to the passage of a zoning ordinance in 1923 which regulated:

1. the uses to which ground could be put (seven classes, i. e., dwelling house, apartment house, retail business, light manufacturing, industrial manufacturing, unrestricted and special districts)
2. the heights of building (five classes)
3. the relation of the size of the lot to the size and use of the building.

The City Plan Commission once served as a board of appeals for those wishing to make complaints arising from zoning regulations. In the city manager charter, adopted in 1925, zoning regulations were included. A few years later, a Board of Zoning Adjustment relieved the City Plan Commission of the duty of hearing appeals. The work of the Commission has been concerned with planning streets and trafficways and regional highways, parks, playgrounds, community centers, public buildings, bridges, and viaducts, as well as with problems of blighted areas, transportation, flood control, and the location of airport sites.

The first widespread movement for city planning came in 1929, when the mayor and the city manager appointed a Civic Improvement Committee. The one thousand members of this

The Process of

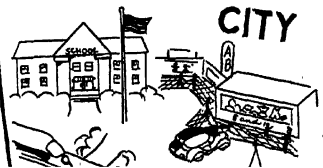


Neighborhood Councils send representatives with city officials
Citizens Planning Council which meets
to the Citizens Planning Council and boards
Citizenship Participation -

CITY-WIDE PLANNING COUNCIL

THE PLANNING

CITY



City Planning

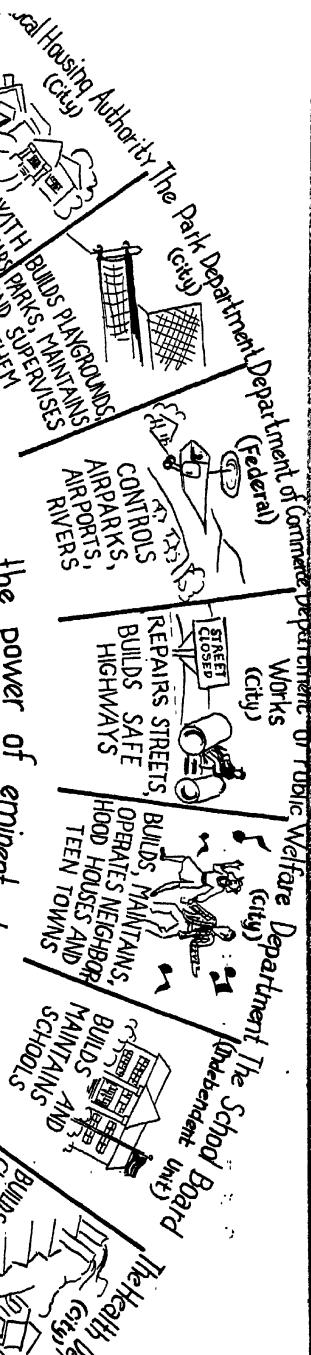
All of these bodies have the power of eminent domain to condemn property for their purposes

The City Planning Commission makes the masterplan and coordinates the work of all city departments

CITY - CITY - CITY -
ADMINISTRATION COUNCIL ENGINEER SCHOOL-INDUSTRY-LABOR-PARK BOARD

CITY COMMISSION

PLAN



group were chosen from all representative civic organizations and every section of the city. They considered the possible needs for the city during the next ten years, and the ways and means of meeting them. Among these needs were improvements for the city, the county, and the school district.

It had become apparent by 1928 that most of the public buildings in Kansas City had seen their best days. Streets were badly congested, and trafficways and boulevards were too crowded to take care of the city's growth in population. Parks for the people living here were too few, and for the most part, poorly equipped. Hospital, fire, police, and water facilities had been outgrown. Sewers and safety islands were badly needed, as were a public market, a new city hall, and a new auditorium for public meetings.

The ten years following the first World War were fairly prosperous ones for Kansas City, so the time seemed ripe to launch a large building program and vote the necessary bonds to pay for it. After months of study, proposed plans were laid before the executive group of the Civic Improvement Committee. A series of public meetings was held throughout the city where objections could be stated, adjustments made, and plans justified. Afterward the plan was to be submitted to the city for a vote.

The newspapers called the plan the "Ten Year Plan" because only one tenth of the money voted could be spent in any one year. When the full one tenth was not spent in any single year, however, it could be spent in later years. Also, not more than one tenth of the total bond issue of \$32,000,000 could be sold in any one year. The city voted in May, 1931, to adopt the plans for the sixteen suggested projects.

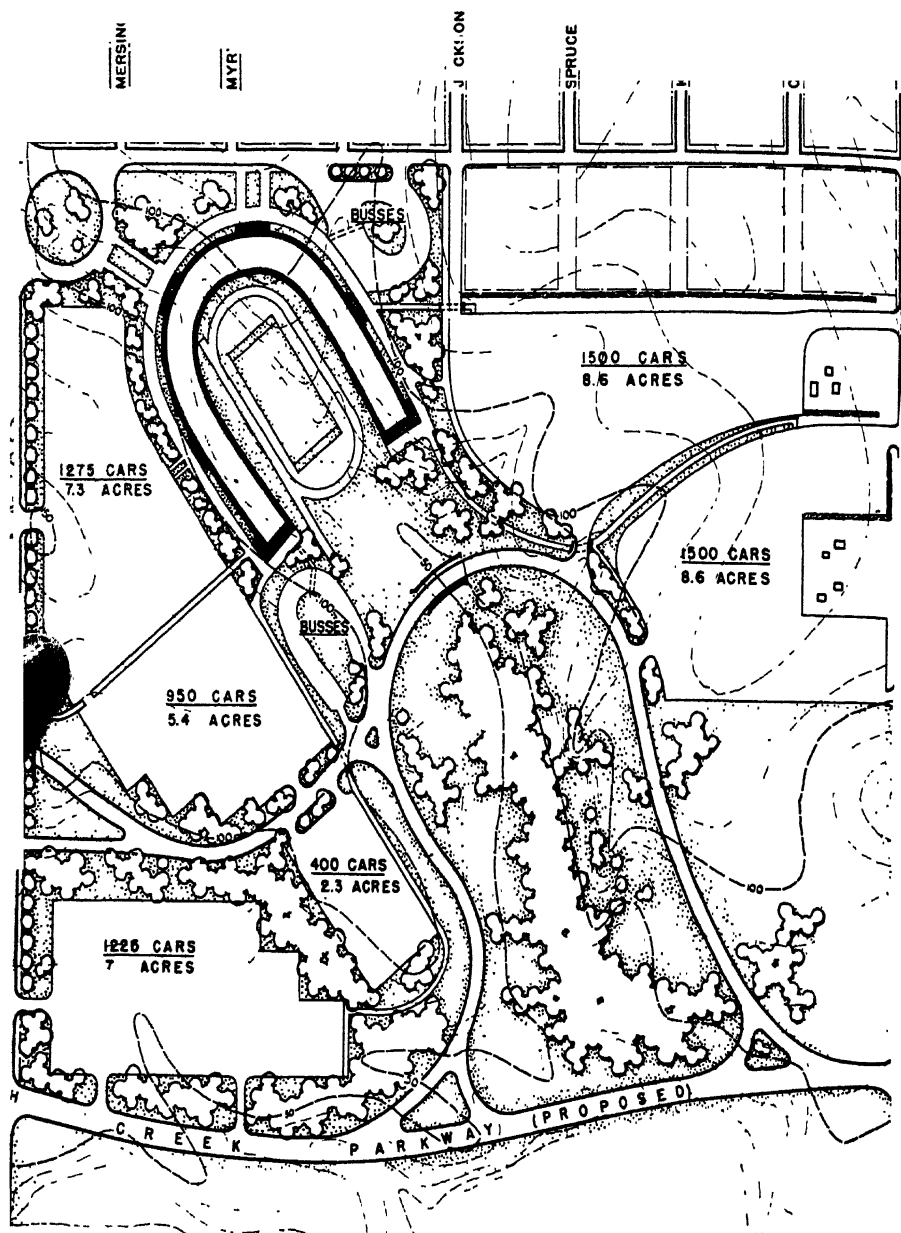
During the next ten years, many of these projects became a reality for Kansas City. Old and out-of-date public buildings were replaced by modern structures of native limestone. A new city hall, a municipal auditorium, and a police headquarters

building equipped with a broadcasting system became a source of pride to the city. Swope Park and the Municipal Airport were greatly improved. Miles of water mains were laid beneath the streets, and a new reservoir was built near the city's south boundary. Some much-needed new equipment was purchased for the Fire Department, and concrete safety zones were built on busy streets. A model market was provided for the distribution of fresh fruits, vegetables, and poultry.

The Ten Year Plan included benefits for Jackson County as well as Kansas City. The Jackson County courthouse in Independence was remodeled in colonial meeting-house style. Another county court house to serve Kansas City was built opposite the City Hall here, becoming a part of the group of buildings known as the Civic Center. To the south of the Center, at Thirteenth and Locust Streets, was erected the Juvenile Court building. A new system of paved roads throughout Jackson County brought its people nearer to Kansas City markets, and gave to city dwellers closer contact with the beauty of the countryside.

A period of business depression during the 1930's made it difficult to complete all of the projects of the Ten Year Plan. During this period the city government spent much more than the sum voted by the citizens for the Ten Year Plan. Millions of dollars of federal aid were also added to the amount spent. An audit, requested in 1939, showed that contracts were awarded to "friends" rather than to the lowest bidder, and that money was wasted in alarming amounts. Funds voted for one project appeared to be used for different purposes, and not all original plans were carried out.

A city's plans for its future can never be complete. Kansas City's Ten Year Plan, however, was the first concrete step towards civic progress. Intelligent planning helps to provide a higher level of living through the best use of the city's resources. Thus the planning process must be based upon an accurate knowledge of the city and its people. This has been the first,



A proposed plan for a stadium

though not the only, concern of the City Planning staff. Today, rather than being only in the hands of a civic minded committee, city planning is under the direction of a planning engineer, a trained expert.

Since 1943, the engineer and his staff have spent months studying the patterns of life in this city in order to recommend useful and adequate plans for its growth, and to chart its future needs. The City Plan Commission staff has worked with the Park Board, the City Council, and various civic groups to develop a systematic, orderly planning program, and to coordinate the activities of all these.

The Citizens' Regional Planning Council, consisting of several thousand people in Kansas City and the five counties surrounding it, has become interested in planning for regional problems. They have formed a council whose goal is to help shape public opinion so that regional improvements can be made. This council reports conditions and needs to the various city agencies, and seeks the help of the trained workers on the City Plan Commission staff. It is the job of the staff to fit these suggestions into the master plan for city development.

With the civic group presenting ideas for improvements and the City Planning staff ready to make definite plans to carry them out, Kansas Citians can look forward to a long range planning program which will provide a more desirable city of the future and will be more willing to vote the bonds necessary for civic betterment.

"COUNTRY CITIES"

The city of tomorrow must stretch its borders far beyond the city of today. For due to the speed of modern cars and planes, as well as to interlacing highways and convenient air parks, there is a much closer link between the town and the country. People in the city need the contact with nature which is found in the countryside. People living in the country need the advantage of

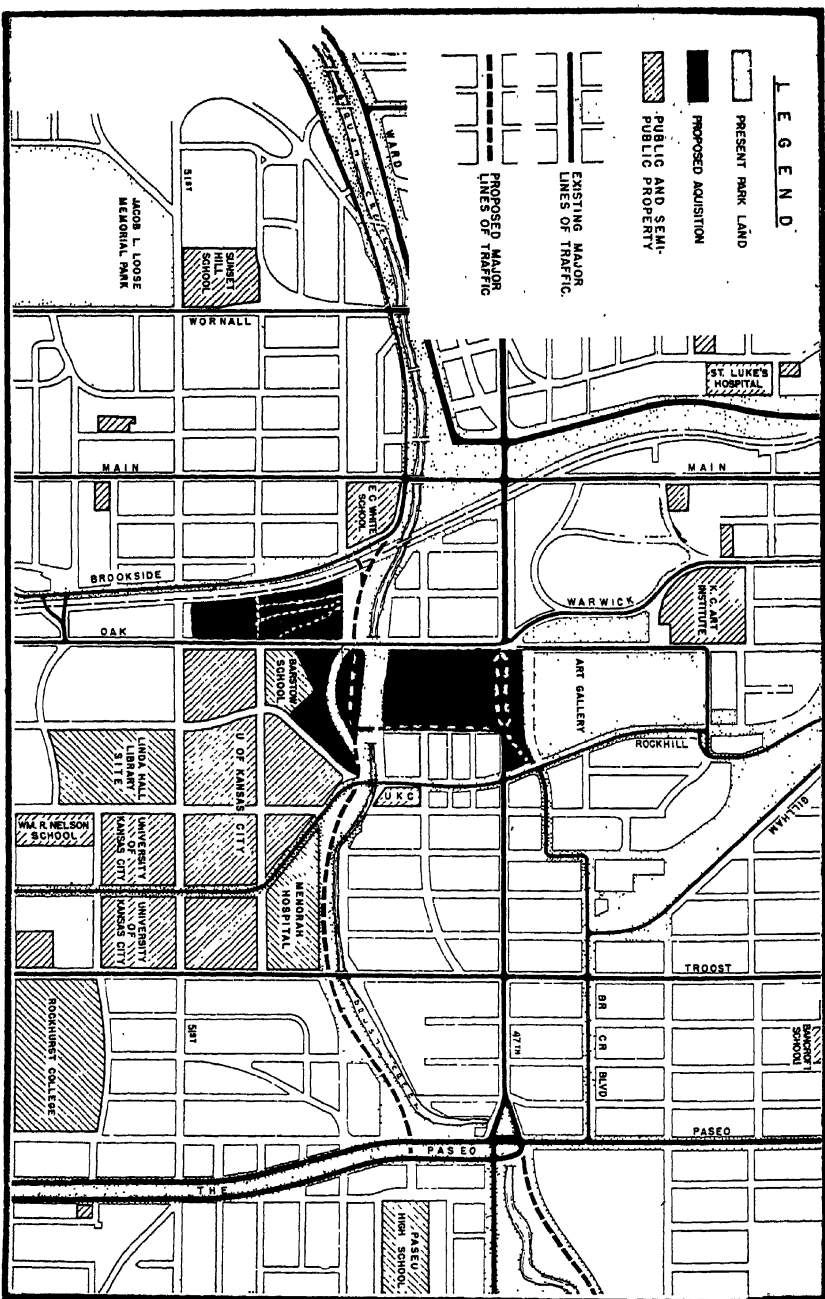
city culture. And with wise and careful planning, city culture can be transplanted to the country, and the beauties of nature can be made available even in the very heart of the city.

For a city, however, to know the joys of the outdoor world, its planners must see the need for greener cities, or those which provide for more grassy plots and parkways. Engineers must plan for cities which spread over enough space to make them never appear crowded or congested. They must include many playgrounds and public parks, as well as "quiet" streets, or those closed to traffic where children may know safety without being constantly on the alert for danger.

City planners must also make provisions for underpasses and overpasses for dangerous highway or street intersections, so that pedestrians may have security and traffic accidents be reduced. Schools and church locations should not only be convenient for those attending them, but should also be protected from heavy traffic.

Besides green spaces and safe streets, good neighborhoods need modern schools and churches of different faiths. The school is the natural center of any neighborhood, and should be within walking distance of all the children attending it. It should have a large, roomy playground, a library, a gymnasium, and meeting rooms for adults as well as up-to-date classrooms for the children. There should be enough churches in a neighborhood to accommodate all those who wish to worship in them.

For a neighborhood to be a good place in which to live, it must be served by a modern transportation system. This should include not only up-to-date street cars and busses, but stops placed conveniently for those using them. The neighborhood should be bounded by good transportation facilities as well. Shopping centers should be centrally placed rather than being scattered haphazardly throughout a neighborhood. They should be within walking distance of the homes needing them. Isolated corner stores are sometimes a blight, and might well be zoned out of ex-



Plans for a proposed cultural center

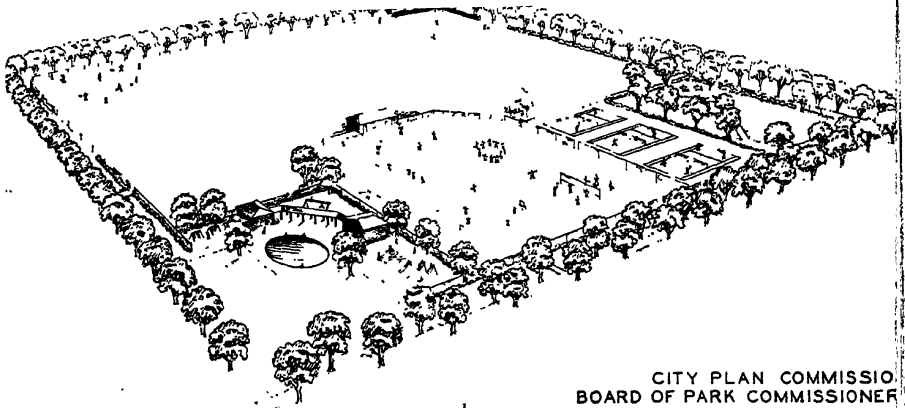
istence. If a neighborhood is well planned, store owners can count on a successful business and are eager to have attractive shops. Then they, just as much as the home owners, are interested in the future of the neighborhood.

Every desirable neighborhood needs recreation centers—a movie theater and a get-together place or neighborhood house to serve all ages. The theatre would probably be located in the business districts but the neighborhood house could be more centrally placed. It might provide a nursery for young children, a recreation center for teen-agers, and club and game rooms for adults. It should be a center for block parties, community sings, athletic events or tournaments, and should be the friendly meeting place for an entire neighborhood. The community centers might well be located in the wings of school buildings or nearby.

Kansas City has all the public agencies, including a planning engineer and a City Plan Commission, to provide for the needs of its people. But the planning of your neighborhood to obtain these needs is a job you may have to start. You are more vitally concerned in your own needs than is anyone else. For this reason, you can help by realizing that your home is far more than just a piece of real estate in a city block. It is a vital part of a neighborhood, and depends upon that neighborhood for its value and its future. When you fully understand this, you have advanced from being a mere resident of a city block to real citizenship in your community. Then you will realize, too, that you are responsible for protecting it from decay and preventing blight. You notice the need for changes and improvements, and become interested in zoning regulations. So you, in your own way, are a city planner, too. And you can help to make the dream of a "country city" become a reality.

PLOTTING CITY DREAMS

Some of the most outstanding achievements in the world of science, art, medicine, and music were once just dreams. For

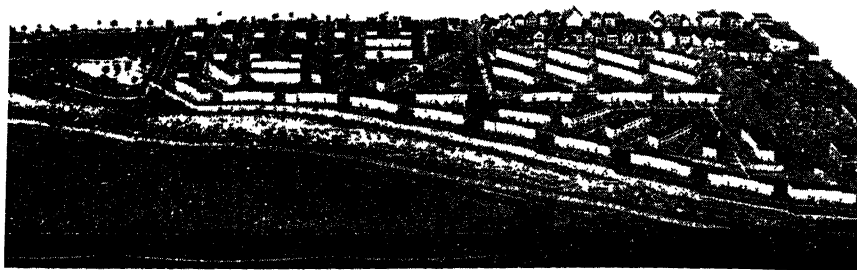


CITY PLAN COMMISSION
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONER

A proposed neighborhood playground

any achievement, there must first be a dream. In order to have dreams for a city's future, its planners must analyze its past. The members of Kansas City's Planning Commission not only made a careful study of the city's growth in the past, but published its results in a volume called *Patterns and People*. In this survey are included seventy charts showing the social and economic life of the citizens—how they live, where they live, the rent they pay, and the value of their homes. The Commission also made an extensive study of the transportation system here, and of the industries based on agriculture. All of these studies were made to aid in planning for the city's future. Patterns of what the city is serve as a great help in planning what the city is to become.

But even after needs are seen and plans drawn up to meet them, certain obstacles must be overcome. Many times the general public is either indifferent or fearful of cost. Compromises must often be made between what is greatly to be desired and what it is practical to undertake. It is sometimes difficult to secure competent volunteer leaders who are willing to give their time and energy to work with those trained in planning. And when many work together in cooperative planning, it is difficult to work with much speed. Sometimes there are problems of red tape which must be cut in order to act for the good of the majority. Often legal procedures, such as the condemning of



A plan suggested by a high school class for rebuilding Quality Hill

private property, take much time. The path to city planning is not an easy one, but requires thought, time, public approval, and money.

A single public-spirited citizen alone can do very little to bring about improvements in his neighborhood. He must join with others of similar interests to be able to get results. Neighborhood meetings not unlike New England town meetings may be called to give everyone an opportunity to express his views. Perhaps at this meeting a neighborhood council can be organized. A few interested people can make calls on others, and discuss community needs and problems. A quick survey will show which citizens belong to organized groups, such as business men's organizations, labor unions, professional groups, women's clubs, and groups of social workers, realtors, and ministers. The more interested groups there are working together, the more certain of success are the planners.

Those who plan for Kansas City's future have many dreams for "face-lifting" in the city which they hope may some day come true. These include not only the correction of its blighted areas, (see chapter 9) but also a remodeled airport, a much improved Swope Park, a training school and shop building as well as an FM radio for the Fire Department, improvements at the General Hospitals, more swimming pools, the widening of certain streets, more trafficways, new approaches to bridges, a municipal stadium, an open air theatre, an incinerator for garbage and trash, community centers and playgrounds, a downtown municipal

parking lot, a new prison for men, a women's reformatory, and improvements at the city market.

Many people also see a need for planning for the region surrounding Kansas City as well as for the city itself. The Citizen's Regional Planning Council is composed of one hundred people from Jackson, Clay, Platte, Johnson, and Wyandotte Counties concerned with the problems of this larger area. This council serves as a clearing house, and receives suggestions from all of the committees on the council. It must answer such questions as these:

1. Are we prepared for a great increase in air travel?
2. Are our highways and trafficways properly linked together?
3. Do we need a new bridge across the Missouri River?
4. Do we need a tunnel under the Missouri River to Kansas City, Kansas?
5. Should war memorials be used by soldiers only?
6. Will we have blighted areas along country roads and highways as well as within our cities unless proper precautions are taken?
7. Do we have a neighborhood association for each neighborhood?
8. Are we planning for enough playgrounds and spacing them throughout the community?
9. How big a zoo should we have?
10. How large a stadium should we have, and where?
11. Are we planning to make this a beautiful section of the country, as well as an industrial center?

The questions listed are not only of concern to city planners and trained experts, but they are also a challenge to you as a future citizen. Answers to them will determine the kind of city in which you are to live. Charting the city's needs is a cooperative undertaking in which you, too, can have a part.

What you think about your city and how you act toward it

each day shape its future history. Your city and you have had an almost personal relationship ever since the time when you were first able to find your way about its streets alone. Growing together, depending upon each other, contributing to each other's welfare—your city and you face the future.



A Chronology
From Trading Post to Metropolis

FROM TRADING POST TO METROPOLIS

United States History

Jeffersonian Democracy
Louisiana Purchase
Robert Fulton's passenger steamer
Clermont

War of 1812
Era of Good Feeling
Annexation of east Florida

Missouri Compromise
Santa Fe Trail starts from
Franklin, Mo.
Monroe Doctrine
Invention of steam locomotive

Jacksonian Democracy
Nullification in South Carolina
Invention of Morse's magnetic
telegraph
Panic of 1837

Trail to Oregon
Annexation of Texas
War with Mexico
Gold Rush to California

Compromise of 1850
Gadsden Purchase
Republican Party formed
Kansas-Nebraska Act
Dred Scott case

Kansas City History

1800

- 1804—Lewis and Clark passed the Kaw's mouth on journey through the Louisiana Purchase
- 1808—Missouri Fur Company founded at St. Louis
 - Ft. Osage founded at site of Sibley, Missouri

1810

- 1812—Territory of Missouri formed
- 1819—First steamboat, Western Engineer, made a trial run up the Missouri

1820

- 1821—Francois Chouteau started a Trading Post on the south bank of the Missouri opposite the present site of Randolph
- Missouri admitted to statehood
- 1825—Treaty with Indians moved them west of Missouri's boundary
- 1827—Townsite of Independence, Missouri, started

1830

- 1830—Mormons came to Missouri, settling in Independence
- 1833—Town of Westport platted
- 1839—"Westport Landing," as steamboat captains called it, became Town of Kansas—area bounded by Missouri Avenue, Broadway and Forest Avenue was first platted

1840

- 1844—Town of Wyandotte founded. (now Kansas City, Kansas)
- 1846—Doniphan's expedition, organized from Ft. Leavenworth, took men from Western Missouri
 - First post office of "Kansas," Missouri, in general store of William Chick—mail service by stage coach mainly to St. Louis
- 1848—Felix X. Aubrey made his famous ride from Santa Fe to Independence
- 1849—Gillis House built to take care of '49ers

1850

- 1850—Town of Kansas incorporated
 - First Bank organized by Northrup and Chick
- 1851—First newspaper, *Kansas Ledger*, published
- 1852—Senator Thomas Hart Benton, prophesied that a great metropolis would rise at confluence of Missouri and

- Kaw Rivers
 1853—Town of Kansas becomes City of Kansas
 —Hannibal and St. Joseph R. R. and Pacific R. R. in Missouri were under construction
 1856—Town of Quindaro established by "free staters"
 —First Board of Trade organized
 1859—St. Louis and Missouri River Telegraph Line came to City of Kansas

1860

Lincoln elected president
 Civil War
 Homestead act (Free land)
 Emancipation Proclamation
 Reconstruction Act
 Field laid the Atlantic Cable
 Pony Express
 Purchase of Alaska
 First R. R. to Pacific

- 1861—Ft. Union built at 10th and Broadway for Home Guard
 1863—Quantrill's attack on Lawrence followed by Order No. 11
 1864—Price's raid across Missouri ending in Battle of Westport
 1865—Pacific railroad completed from St. Louis, K. C. Journal published
 1866—First sleeping cars on the Pacific R. R. came to City of Kansas
 1867—Public schools started
 1868—First edition of the *Kansas City Times*
 1869—First horse drawn cars operated

1870

Bell's telephone shown at Philadelphia exposition
 Edison invented incandescent light
 Panic of 1873
 The Grange movement began

- 1871—Kansas City Stock Yards Company organized
 1872—First regular Fire Department
 1875—First water works in City of Kansas
 1878—Union Depot built
 1879—First telephone exchange in City of Kansas, an Edison Telephone system

1880

American Federation of Labor formed
 Pendleton Act for Civil Service
 Inter-State Commerce Commission
 First Pan-American Conference

- 1880—First issue of *The Kansas City Star* published
 1883—First electric generating station started operating at 8th & Santa Fe. Cable Cars operated for the first time
 1886—Kansas City, Kansas, incorporated
 1887—First Power and Light company organized. First electric streetcars operated
 1889—City of Kansas officially changed to Kansas City

1890

Sherman's Anti-Trust Act
 Duryea's first auto
 Edison's motion picture
 Panic of 1893
 Silver controversy
 Spanish-American War
 Annexation of Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam and Philippines

- 1893—Park and Boulevard Plan begun
 1898—Convention Hall built

1900

DeForest invented radio tube
 Issue of imperialism

- 1900—Convention for President held at Convention Hall

T. Roosevelt president
Progressive movement

Wilson president
Federal Reserve Banks
World War I
Versailles Treaty

Inauguration Act established quotas
Back to Normalcy
First talking picture demonstrated
Stock Market crash

The Depression
F. Roosevelt president
The New Deal
Social Security Act
Congress of Industrial Organizations
formed

Lend-Lease Act
World War II
Atomic Bomb used in warfare
Philippines given Independence

1901—American Royal Show first held
1905—Inter-City Viaduct built
1907—Country Club District began south
of 47th St.
1909—"Barnstorming" by pilots at Over-
land Park

1910

1911—A-S-B Bridge opened
1914—New Union Station dedicated
—Federal Reserve Bank opened in
Kansas City

1920

1921—Flying show staged for American
Legion National Convention
1922—Richards Flying Field
1926—Air mail by National Air Transport
1927—K. C. Municipal Airport dedicated
1928—Republican National Convention at
Convention Hall

1930

1930—Ten-year plan begun for roads, sewers,
boulevards, Municipal Auditorium,
City Hall, police building, new post
office, federal building, and others
1931—T. W. A. established headquarters in
K. C.
1933—Wm. Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art
and Atkins Museum opened
—Kansas City Philharmonic organized
—University of Kansas City opened
1934—First streamlined train in America
placed in operation by Burlington
R. R. at Kansas City

1940

1941—Industry converts to war production
1943—Grandview airport completed
1944—Midwest Research Institute begun
1945—Trans World Airlines organized
1946—Missouri river flood protection begun
under Pick-Sloan plan

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